PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOV 3 - 1936

YOUTH NUMBER

NOVEMBER, 1936

FIFTEEN CENTS

THE CRISIS

INTERRACIAL FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

(Cleveland young people tackle race problem—See page 335)

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES

George S. Schuyler

GIFTED NEGRO CHILDREN

Martin D. Jenkins

DARK NOON

Pascalis LaBarre

"EQUAL" SCHOOLS IN VIRGINIA

Subscribe NOW . . . for

THE Chicago Defender

WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY

The Only Race Newspaper Circulated in Every Civilized Country in the World

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:	
1 Year	$3.00
6 Months	1.75
3 Months	1.00
1 Month	.35

Advertising Rates Sent Upon Request

Published by

The Robert S. Abbott Publishing Co.

Incorporated

3435 Indiana Avenue :: Chicago, Illinois

THE CRISIS

Founded 1910
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

ROY WILKINS, Editor

ADVISORY BOARD

J. E. Spingarn Dr. Louis T. Wright James Weldon Johnson Lewis Gannett Walter White

Volume 43, No. 11 Whole No. 311

CONTENTS FOR NOVEMBER, 1936

COVER

Interracial Fellowship dinner Cleveland, O., N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council

ALONG THE BATTLEFRONT — Page
By J. St. Clair Drake 327

NEW JOB FRONTIERS FOR NEGRO YOUTH
By George S. Schuyler 328

GIFTED NEGRO CHILDREN
By Martin D. Jenkins 330

ROOSEVELT AND THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY
By Eugene Lyons 332

"EQUAL" SCHOOLS IN VIRGINIA 333

WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING
By Charles Edward Russell and Mary White Ovington 334

EDITORIALS 337

DARK NOON,
A story by Pascalis LaBarre 338

FROM THE PRESS OF THE NATION 339

THE NEGRO IN THE FEDERAL THEATRE
By Anne Powell 340

ALONG THE N.A.A.C.P. BATTLEFRONT 342

THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15c a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

The contents of THE CRISIS *are copyrighted. Copyright 1936 by The Crisis Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved.*

NEXT MONTH

Edward Strong of the Youth section of the National Negro Congress, who went to the World Youth Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, and traveled through Europe, will have an article on the war in Spain in the December number.

•

There will be an article also by Ernst O. Hauser entitled "The American Negro and the Dark World." Also a piece by E. Horace Fitchett on "Superstition and Education in South Carolina."

•

R. L. Winslow of Fisk University contributes a short article on the Tennessee Valley Authority.

•

In an early issue will be another article by Chatwood Hall, who lives in Moscow, on Pushkin's duel. Also a piece by Edward E. Redcay of the State Teachers College at Plattsburg, N. Y., describing a rural Negro school near Washington, D. C.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

J. St. Clair Drake is one of the leaders in the national youth movement of the N.A.A.C.P. He is a member of the faculty at Dillard university, New Orleans.

•

George S. Schuyler is the well-known columnist and magazine writer who has contributed to The Crisis before.

•

Martin D. Jenkins is a member of the faculty of the A. and T. College at Greensboro, N. C.

•

Eugene Lyons for many years was United Press correspondent in Russia and other European countries.

•

Charles Edward Russell and Miss Mary White Ovington were founders of the N.A.A.C.P. along with William English Walling.

•

Pascalis LaBarre lives in New Haven, Conn.

•

Anne Powell is connected with the Federal Theatre project of New York City.

Wanted—

A Fighting SLOGAN

For the Youth Councils and College Chapters of the N.A.A.C.P.

Contest Extended to November 5, 1936

A $25 CASH PRIZE will be given the winning slogan in a national contest, which closes November 5, 1936.

RULES

1. Slogan must not be over ten words and must express the spirit of youth as they unite in the militant program of the N.A.A.C.P.

2. ***All*** young people between the ages of 16 and 25 years of age may enter. ***Not*** limited to members of the N.A.A.C.P.

3. Slogans must be written on the blank printed on this page and in the October issue of THE CRISIS. Only slogans written on these blanks will be considered by the judges.

Contestants may send in as many slogans as they wish, but each must be on the regular slogan blank. Mail to: Contest Manager N.A.A.C.P., 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

4. Winner will be announced in the December issue of THE CRISIS.

5. Entries must be postmarked no later than November 5, 1936.

SLOGAN CONTEST BLANK

SLOGAN CONTEST MANAGER N.A.A.C.P.
69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

I submit below a slogan in the $25 cash prize contest for the youth councils and college chapters of the N.A.A.C.P.

.....

.....

Signed: ..... Age .....

Address .....

City and State .....

Along the Battlefront

By J. St. Clair Drake

A Negro is Lynched

There are rumblings on the nearby college campus. There is hot anger and a spirit of protest that *must* be expressed. (There is nothing so damning as impotence in the face of crisis; nothing so dangerous to self respect.) And yet, what can be done? How can these students, in the face of the terror, show that they are not "taking it lying down?" Ishmael Flory and the Denmark Vesey Club provide an answer, and Fisk students with posters and massed protest, on campus and off, show Tennessee that Cordie Cheek cannot be lynched without a militant and vocal protest from Negro youth.

A "Crime" Conference is in Session

"Public enemy number one is the lynching mob," says Oswald Garrison Villard, but a national crime conference has no place for lynching on its agenda.

It is December and very cold, but Lawyer Lovett, Editor Murphy, Professor Dorsey, and N.A.A.C.P.'s Roy Wilkins walk the picket line with sandwich signs proclaiming:

"GANGSTERS GET YEARS
LYNCHERS GET CHEERS"

"LYNCH VICTIMS CANNOT
TALK WE SPEAK FOR
THEM"

Then,—arrest and arraignment.

The next day, *Youth* answers! Sixty Howard students, each with a rope noose round his neck, tramp silent and determined—while the "crime" experts ignore "Public Enemy Number One."

A Filibuster Ties Up the Senate

On several campuses, Student Emergency Committees await their telegrams. Word comes from GHQ—TIME IS RIPE LEAD CAMPUS IN DEMONSTRATION TOMORROW REPORT RESULTS.

At Fisk, Morgan, and Union the student bodies assemble, voice their protest, and dispatch telegrams.

At Christiansburg Institute, around a half-masted flag the students pledge their support to the Costigan-Wagner Bill, send a telegram of protest, and disperse singing:

"Oh Freedom, Oh Freedom . . .
And before I'd be a slave
I'd be buried in my grave . . ."

And from West Virginia State College an avalanche of over two hundred

The young people of the N.A.A.C.P. are called to a nation-wide fight against lynching

letters and fifteen telegrams descends on Washington!

N.A.A.C.P. Youth Meet in Baltimore

Three hundred of them rise, black bands upon their arm, and stand in silence. The flag flutters to half mast to the strains of "God of Our Weary Years . . .," while a placard proclaims:

WE MOURN FOR ALL WHO
HAVE BEEN LYNCHED

(Yes, for *all!* Over 5,000 of them—some black, some white; some guilty of crime, many innocent, but all the victims of grievous wrong and therefore worthy to be mourned. But most especially for the six murdered sharecroppers, lynched last year because they dared to dream of a New South.)

Then a change of mood—the voicing of a militant determination, the rise and fall of a mass chant—

VICTIMS OF ROPE AND FAGGOT
WE SHALL NOT BE A LOST
GENERATION.

The next day the militant spirit finds embodiment in the Pledge of Youth:

"To fight relentlessly . . .
Against the insane fury of the mob."

and concreteness in the resolution

"To lead the youth of the nation in a militant and dramatic demonstration . . ."

against lynching and the failure to enact adequate federal legislation.

Already, then, among Negro youth, there is a tradition of action, of militant protest, of dramatic intensity in the fight against lynching. The N.A.A.C.P. Youth Councils would extend this spirit—from these "pioneer" colleges to *every* college; from the Baltimore Conference to every community; from each youth council to the churches, the lodges, the labor unions and the great unorganized groups; from the race to the nation—uniting all opponents of lynching in a thundering protest that will be heard and heeded.

So the N.A.A.C.P. Youth Councils issue the call to every person who hates lynching, to all who would prevent it and end it, to join them on a day in February in a nationwide demonstration against lynching, in favor of Federal legislation, and as a plea for a LYNCHLESS YEAR.

Sweet Land of Liberty

February. Month of patriots. Negro History Week. Race Relations Sunday.

But "founding" and "saving" fathers can never be duly honored while their "wooded hills" bear such grim fruit.

History, too, is more than dates and achievement. It is also horror, fury, and suffering.

Race Relations, if to be more than an annual one-day love feast; cannot blink the fact that the mob still rides.

February, 1937. A new administration has just been given power.

What could be more appropriate than a reminder during this "patriotic month" that violence and terror are still our heritage.

What could be more effective than an unequivocal mandate to the newly-inaugurated President and his congress, a mandate expressed in a nationwide anti-lynching demonstration.

Mobilizing the 42 Million

The fight against lynching is a day-by-day struggle in which a few devoted leaders have, for years, battled unceasingly. Their weapons have been many and varied, the battlefront extensive. They have written pamphlets and books; drafted laws and buttonholed legislators; they have risked their lives investigating and photographing lynchings. They have "blockaded" Congress and forced it to consider anti-lynching bills; they have snatched men, innocent men, literally from death. They have never relented. N.A.A.C.P. youth salutes them.

Behind these leaders are forty-two million members of the many organizations that, last year endorsed the Costigan-Wagner Bill. It is this forty-two million that the Youth Councils of the N.A.A.C.P. would lead into action in February, in a demonstration of solidarity, in an outpouring of anti-lynching sentiment in a probation of the fight their leaders have made "against the insane fury of the mob."

Toward A Lynchless Year

A lynchless Year. This would be truly something new. It is the ultimate goal. There shall be no let-up until America has had *one* year free from the mob. It will require persistent education in the cause and cure of lynching. It will necessitate an aroused pub-

(*Continued on page* 345)

New Job Frontiers for Negro Youth

By George S. Schuyler

ACCORDING to the Director of the National Youth Administration there are 4,700,000 youngsters in the country "unemployed, not in school and seeking work." Three-quarters of a million have never held a job. Only 54,000 out of 1,700,000 young urbanites have sufficient experience in industry to be classified as "skilled." Negro youth is worse off because of the many lines of work from which it is excluded. Only charlatans pretend to see a time when this vast young army will be employed privately. Most of them will have to work for the State, earning just enough to keep them alive and out of mischief.

My concern here is with that minority of young Negroes aspiring to something more than a spot in the WPA or CCC. What is their future? What sort of work can they get? For what sort of careers shall they prepare in this rapidly changing world? Teaching? Medicine? Dentistry? Preaching? Law? Into these pursuits have gone 86 per cent of our college and vocational graduates in the past quarter century and 73 per cent of this number have taken up teaching and preaching.

The author points out many fields in which opportunity beckons Negroes. Colored young people who have courage and foresight and skill and the will to dare will find the reward of a good living and relative security

The Teachers and Preachers

There is every indication that these fields are growing economically less attractive for both Negroes and whites. Hundreds who cannot ever hope to get teaching jobs that will justify the expense of their education are nevertheless preparing to teach. It is quite true that while there is one white teacher for every 118 white children there is only one Negro teacher for every 218 Negro children. It is equally true that if all colored children in the South were compelled to attend school there would be jobs for over 6000 additional colored teachers. It is no less true that if the pupil load were reduced to around thirty per teacher there would be around 25,000 more colored teachers needed. But these potential vacancies will not soon be filled because the majority of supposedly intelligent Negroes are too indifferent or cowardly properly to support the present legal campaign of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for educational equality. Sadly enough, the very Negroes most familiar with the increasingly limited opportunities for colored teachers are the most energetic saboteurs of this campaign. Yet, around fifteen per cent more Negro than white women seek a livelihood in this field.

The annual increase of Negro children will progressively decline as the nation's annual population growth slows down. When this nation has grown to 148,000,000 between 1960 and 1970, its population will become static. The percentage of elderly people will double while that of the children will halve. If we keep on grinding out the annual increase of teachers, it is obvious that the saturation point must soon be reached. In the circumstances it would be wise for many young Negroes who contemplate entering this field to look elsewhere.

As a profession, preaching is even less attractive viewed from the pocketbook angle. If the white church is impoverished with one white preacher for each 878 whites, what of the 26,034 Negro preachers or one for every 475 Negroes, and only half the Negroes members of any church? Actually there is one Negro preacher to about every 178 Negro church members. Imperial Russia, credited with being the most church-ridden country of its time, had proportionately only one-fourth as many churches as Aframerica. To say that the field is saturated is putting it mildly. It is an economic law that the value of a commodity declines proportionate to its plentitude, and the ministry is no exception.

In view of the swarm of briefless lawyers (1 to each 760 Americans), the inability of an increasing number of people to hire them and the growing demand for public prosecutors, it is unlikely that the law will soon become an economic paradise.

Professions Overcrowded

Nor are medicine, dentistry, nursing and pharmacy what they used to be. They, too, have become overcrowded fields, and often in sections where they might be lucratively pursued, social conditions for the educated Negro are far from attractive. It must be admitted, however, that southern white people are gradually becoming civilized enough to live with. It must be kept in mind, however, that a disproportionate number of the Negroes are in the class that is without means or desire for private medical and dental service.

One notes an increasing interest in aviation among Negroes of late. These enthusiasts, most of whom wish to be pilots, should know that there are already a dozen pilots for every available job. It is another story when it comes to airplane mechanics. There is no reason why in time this field should not offer as many opportunities to Negroes as automobile mechanics.

The radio field offers little now to the would-be performer. The same is true of the stage, fine arts, professional music and mining engineering. Accountancy is pretty well filled up. Daily newspapers are virtually closed to Negroes, and there are few desirable openings on Negro weeklies, if any.

On the other hand, social work was never more promising. Our increasingly complex civilization makes it more and more necessary. The future social worker will, in addition, be able to confine himself to social work and not to the higher mendicancy of wheedling donations out of reluctant philanthropists. There will be additional opportunities in the branches of vocational guidance, child guidance, mental hygiene psychology, social statistics and research. While the standards have gone up, it is unlikely that qualified social workers will find the field crowded for some time, thanks to the numerous municipal, state and federal welfare projects.

While almost all qualified Negro chemists are employed either in industry or education, and the field is an increasingly important one, there are plenty of obstacles confronting the Negro aspirant. The increasing desire for economic self-sufficiency in all nations, however, necessitates the chemical creation of substitutes. He who can produce what is wanted will be accepted. Doors will open to the brilliant mind. The fact that some Negro chemists have secured employment with industrial concerns is an indication that others may do likewise.

Age of Technicians

One might say the same for civil engineering, automobile engineering, electrical engineering, air conditioning engineering, architecture and building contracting. Only two per cent of the civil engineers were unemployed in 1932 at the height of the business de-

pression. With the numerous government projects going on it is now probably nil. The chances for Negro employment in municipal, state and federal civil services increase yearly.

The spurt in electrification following completion of many big power projects will bring increased consumption of electrical equipment and call for more electricians. The foothold Negroes have secured in radio mechanics is an indication of what may be hoped for as competent Negro electricians offer their services.

Architecture and building are starting a tremendous upswing all along the line and offering the greatest opportunities in a decade. A number of young Negroes have already made a name for themselves in these fields and there is every reason to suppose that others may do so.

Automobile engineering has attracted some young Negroes and several have made good. While many plants offer them no opportunity as yet to study and learn, others do. In every large city are well-equipped automobile engineering schools. Young Negroes should avail themselves of this opportunity to prepare for what will continue to be one of the largest and most important businesses in America. A great new era in gas enginering is at hand as indicated in the amazing expansion in aviation and the increasing demand for Diesel engines not only in ships, airplanes and dirigibles but on railroads and in automobiles.

This is the age of technics and the key man is the technical scientist. Without him we should promptly return to a seventeenth century economy. Even during the depths of depression, there will be a larger proportion of jobs for this class than for any other. We may do without teachers, preachers, doctors and dentists for some time or curtail their services but our civilization is bogged down without electricians, engineers, chemists, metallurgists and their like. The young Negro who is well trained will have larger opportunities in these fields with increasing nationalization of industry. It is desirable that our future Negro leadership consist of scientists rather than teachers and preachers, not only because we are living in an age dominated by science but because the psychology of the engineer is more likely to incline to Negro integration in American life and less toward tacitly accepting and promoting segregation. Finally, the engineer is not restricted to employment in America but may obtain it abroad.

Young colored men should not neglect the field of veterinary surgery. There are twelve million horses, five million mules, sixty-one million cattle, twenty-five million milk cows, forty-nine million sheep and thirty-seven million swine, to say nothing of millions of domestic pets. Here is a vast field for the veterinarian especially with the federal government establishing more stringent inspection regulations every year and needing increasing numbers of veterinarians for the work. It already employs 1300. The field is not a crowded one. In less than a year the 250 annual graduates are either employed or are doing well independently. Those Negroes who are in the field have prospered.

Another neglected field is forestry. There are only about three Negro graduate foresters and all are employed. The national forestry service offers well-paid, secure, healthy jobs doing socially constructive work in parks and preserves, as do the 43 States having forestry departments, and numerous municipalities. Twenty of the twenty-four schools of forestry are outside the South and accept Negroes as students.

Federal, State and municipal civil services are offering increasing opportunities to the technician. The pay is fairly good and the jobs are secure. With the increasing political power of Negroes, the appointment of our qualified young men and women to these technical positions should be greatly facilitated.

Dietetics and industrial art are also growing in importance and offer splendid opportunities for trained young people.

Agriculture Neglected

One of the great tragedies of Negro life has been the squandering of our agricultural heritage until today we have only a comparative handful of trained agriculturists amidst a swarm of ignorant, landless peasants doomed by mechanization. Vast areas of fine farm land have been lost by us because parents who considered farming demeaning foolishly educated their sons to be dentists, physicians, lawyers, teachers or social workers and prepared no one for agriculture. We have been so miseducated that even today Negro school children greet with a groan any suggestion to take up farming. Yet the backbone of this and every national economy is agriculture and the value of this business is greater than any other. More, it is an increasingly important source of raw materials for industry.

No group is more secure than the land-owning farmers. Regardless of scaremongering about the vicissitudes of agriculture, it is noteworthy that the percentage of farm failures everywhere is in inverse ratio to the number of *trained* agriculturists in any given area. I know personally that hundreds of Negro farmers have made money and extended their holdings right through the present slump. Even in the worst parts of the South the intelligent, thrifty, educated Negro farmer is generally respected and unmolested. The worst obstacle confronting the Negro in agriculture is ignorance, shiftlessness and that all-American curse; the get-rich-quick psychology.

Another new field in which Negroes have done very well is salesmanship. Today Negro salesmen are employed by the largest corporations and are making good selling to both whites and Negroes.

Small Business

For the young Negro man or woman with some capital there are great possibilities in small businesses rendering highly personal service, such as barber shops, restaurants, hairdressing establishments, milliners, valets, etc., not in the Negro ghetto . but "downtown." Why more Negroes have not done this is one of the many amazing mysteries of Aframerican psychology. There are literally hundreds of cities North and South where this can be done today and the majority of white people actually prefer to patronize such Negro establishments where the management is progressive and attentively courteous without the teeth-skinning obsequiousness upon which many of the old timers solely relied.

Our young men and women who have ambition must widen their fields of economic pioneering. They must pioneer as their fathers and grandfathers pioneered and not expect to slip into a box seat at the game of life on a borrowed rain check. They must ditch the all-too-common fatalistic assumption that color bars are insurmountable and the accompanying proneness to fall back on segregated institutions and enterprises as a way out. Color prejudice is ubiquitous, it cannot be avoided, it can be met and vanquished by high competency and intelligent organized backing of competent youth by their elders.

A new world is unfolding compared to which the scientific wonders of the present will be as the radio to the tom tom. Let young Negroes prepare themselves for new places and new responsibilities in this new world, and let old Negroes, parents, friends and well-wishers, furnish the scholarships and backing which even genius requires.

GUEST STAR

Clyde Barrie, baritone, called one of the greatest Negro singing discoveries since Roland Hayes, was a guest singer on the coast to coast program of the "Heinz Magazine of the Air" over Columbia's blue network, October 16 at 11 a. m. (C.S.T.) with a rebroadcast to the west at 3 p. m. (E.S.T.).

Gifted Negro Children

By Martin D. Jenkins

THE typical intelligence test consists of a series of carefully graded tasks selected from the experiences of children; it is based on the supposition that the tasks presented represent common factors in the life of every child to be tested. If this condition were fulfilled the test might indirectly reveal differences traceable to inherited nature. But this condition is not fulfilled—there are but few tasks which are common factors in the life of every child. It is precisely this condition which has led to the widespread misinterpretation of intelligence test results.

Nevertheless, the intelligence test may be a useful tool when it is interpreted in the light of its limitations. An intelligence test score is influenced by both hereditary and environmental factors. An individual may have high potentiality, but, unless environmental factors are propitious the inherent capacity cannot develop; on the other hand, the environment, no matter how favorable, can never raise the individual above his innate limit of development. A high score on an intelligence test, therefore, although it may be due in part to a superior environment, is presumptive evidence of superior innate intelligence; but it should be added that a low score is not necessarily evidence of inferior innate intelligence.

No Inferiority Proof

Not so long ago it was common practice among psychologists to test contiguous samplings of white and Negro children and to generalize, on the basis of the resultant test scores, that Negroes are inferior to whites in intelligence. In recent years, however, psychologists

The proportion of gifted Negro children—those with an intelligence quotient of 140 or more—is about the same as that for gifted whites, this writer declares, citing a study made in Chicago schools

have come to realize the fallacy in assigning the Negro an inferior position. It is generally recognized now that differences in training and environment may account for the differences usually found in the test scores of whites and Negroes.

Some psychologists profess still to believe, however, that relatively few Negroes are to be found in the very highest ranges of intelligence. Implicit in this belief is the hypothesis that intelligence is in some way connected with race, that Negro ancestry imposes a biological handicap—this factor being reflected by a paucity of gifted Negro children. * The writer's recent study of gifted Negro children who are enrolled in the public schools of Chicago has shed some light upon this question. Some of the more important findings of general interest will be noted.

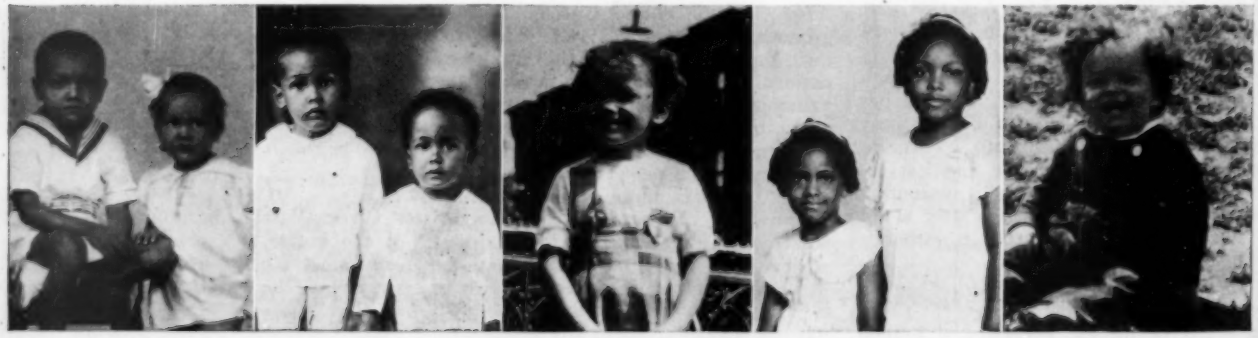
1. Where adequate opportunities are afforded for educational and cultural development, gifted Negro children are found with about the same frequency as are gifted white children. In three of the seven schools canvassed by the writer the proportion of gifted Negro children equals or exceeds the "normal" proportion for white populations.

* In psychological parlance the "gifted" child is one whose intelligence quotient (IQ) is at or above 140. In a randomly selected group of American white children there will be found only about four children who test at this high level. Thus, gifted children are those who occur in the very highest ranges of test-intelligence.

Of further significance is the extent to which individual Negro children may vary above the average. The writer has reported in another place the case of the very remarkable girl "B". This girl of 200 IQ has an intelligence quotient which has been exceeded by fewer than ten of the hundreds of thousands of children to whom intelligence tests have been administered. This case, which is well-authenticated, shows that Negro ancestry is not a limiting factor in intelligence-test performance.

2. Gifted Negro children are typical gifted children. The typical gifted child is accelerated in school—he is young for his grade. No one of the group studied by the writer was over age for grade and none had ever repeated a grade. One gifted boy completed the eighth grade and entered high school prior to his eleventh birthday. Another subject, a nine-year-old girl, has completed the seventh grade; and yet another, a six-year-old boy, has completed the third grade.

The typical gifted child manifests surpassing educational attainment. Tests administered to the writer's group reveal the amazing amount of subject-matter some children have acquired in a few brief years. The average gifted child has mastered subject-matter 1.4 grades in advance of his present grade placement, and 3.3 grades in advance of that which is normal for his chronological age. Individual cases are even more revealing. The ten-year-old eighth grader referred to above had had less than five years of formal schooling, yet he had managed to acquire as much knowledge of the common school subjects as has the average high school senior. Another subject, a nine-year-



Portlette and Emma E. Southall
Tallahassee, Fla.

Garfield and Felix Casimir
Dominica, B. W. I.

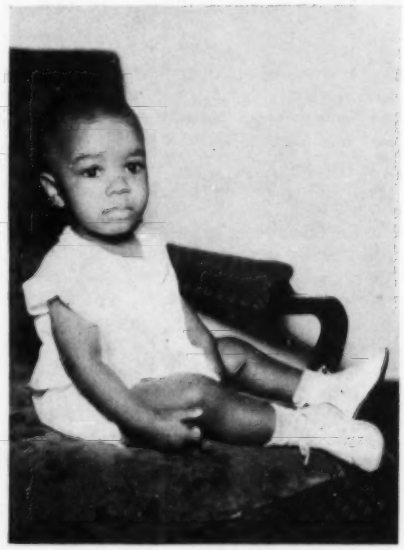
Joan Betty King
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Marie Louise and Hortense Brown
Los Angeles, Calif.

Edward A. Stevenson, Jr.
New York, N. Y.

old fifth grader who had been in school less than four years, revealed subject-matter knowledge equal to that of the average ninth grader.

Although gifted children are superior to average children in all of the school subjects, they are most superior in reading and language usage. The gifted child is almost always a voracious reader, exhibiting an intellectual curiosity which is seemingly insatiable.



LLOYD G. MCNEILL, JR.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Even more striking is the gifted child's language usage. Almost never does one find a gifted child who employs the ungrammatical expressions so prevalent among school children.

A nicety in the choice and definition of words is often exhibited. One extremely superior nine-year-old girl, for example, was asked to define a number of words. (Incidentally, this child's vocabulary is equal to that of the average sixteen-year-old.) Following are some of her responses:

Orange—"A citrous fruit, orange in color—fruit is named therefrom."

Forfeit—"Something given up—not a sacrifice."

Mars—"God of War in Roman mythology."

Treasury—"Place where a cooperating group keeps the money."

Aside from mental superiority—which is manifested by surpassing school achievement and by a certain maturity in thinking and speaking—gifted children are little different from other children. They are, apparently, just as sociable as are other children, just as immature emotionally, and although they tend to be slightly heavier and taller than other children of their age this is not a marked characteristic. The widespread belief that children of very superior intelligence are sickly, nervous, puny and unsociable is not borne out by the facts.

Not Due to White Ancestry

3. The superiority of gifted Negro children cannot be attributed to white ancestry. Careful check was made on the racial composition of each of the writer's subjects. It was found that the group of superior children exhibits about the same degree of race mixture as does the general Negro population; most of the children are of predominantly Negro ancestry.

The chief value of this study from the scientific standpoint is that it adds to the already abundant evidence that differences in intelligence are a matter of individual rather than of racial differences. But there is a social implication as well. Effort to find genius may often fail but it will always be worth making. We do not know the actual relationship between childhood promise and adult fruition. Evidence is accumulating, however, that it is from the ranks of the gifted that our future leaders in scholarship, in literature and in the arts will emerge.

Without doubt many Negro children potentially capable of contributing to society and to the race have remained undeveloped because of either lack of identification, lack of encouragement or lack of opportunity. The Negro group can ill afford to squander its intellectual capital; no group in America needs more to mobilize and to utilize its most capable individuals. It is the duty of society as a whole to provide for the development of its most superior members, but it is an especial responsibility of the Negro group to assure the conservation of its talent.

Nancy Kester (right), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kester of Nashville, Tenn., and her little playmate, Celestine Thacker. Nancy's father is the organizer of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union and has addressed several branches of the N.A.A.C.P. and the St. Louis conference in 1935

To this end teachers and administrators who come into contact with Negro children should seek to identify, in a systematic rather than a haphazard way, and to encourage the most capable children. Community organizations such as parent-teacher associations, clubs, fraternal groups and churches should make provision for stimulating and aiding children of high potentiality. High schools and colleges will discharge an obligation to society by offering financial assistance to students of surpassing ability. Concerted effort along this line will yield dividends of the highest sort.

Letter to Cadet

One of the readers of THE CRISIS, noting the account of the graduation from United States Military Academy at West Point of Lt. Benjamin O. Davis recalled the difficulties of Cadet Whittaker who was in West Point in 1880. The treatment accorded Cadet Whittaker moved Elizabeth Cady Stanton to write him the following letter:

Tenafly, April 20, 1880

To Cadet Whittaker:

Dear Sir:—Reading from day to day of the insults to which you have been subjected in the Military Academy of the United States, while I have blushed for my country, I have had a feeling of pride in the young cadet who has maintained, under very trying circumstances, such self-control and dignity. What a splendid record for the page of history some brave young cadet of the white race might have made for himself, if, in defending you against the contemptible persecutions and brutal outrages of his fellows, he had fought and conquered that hateful spirit of caste, so degrading to every human soul that entertains it. It would have been a more gallant four years' fight for some Northern boy to have made at West Point than to have been the leader of all the victories from Fort Donelson to the fall of Richmond. But not one soldier was there. With all the memories of the late war, the proclamation of emancipation, the acts of enfranchisement, the constitutional amendments, and civil rights bill—not one soldier brave enough to stand for justice, liberty, and equal rights to all! In the contemplation of such unworthy sons, such moral cowards, I do not feel we have any reason to be proud of our color. Accept my best regards and sincere sympathy for you in the present trials.

Yours respectfully,
ELIZABETH CADY STANTON

WORLD YOUTH DEMAND RACE EQUALITY

Recognition of the equality of the races of the world was called for in Geneva in September by the Soviet delegates to the World Youth Congress. A. V. Kossariev, chairman of the Soviet Union's representatives, quoted Karl Marx's words: "A people that oppresses others cannot be free."

Roosevelt—and the American Labor Party

By Eugene Lyons

The American Labor Party failed to get its word in the October CRISIS. Here is its appeal for support at the polls November 3

GOVERNOR ALF M. LANDON issued a formal statement on October 1 "disclaiming the support" of certain "elements who are endeavoring to bring racial prejudices and religious bigotries into American life." Though the statement got snowed under in the avalanche of election speeches, it is one of the most significant in the campaign. It amounts to an admission by the Republican standard-bearer himself that these fomenters of race hatreds, intolerance and bigotry are on the Republican side of the election battle lines.

The activities of these malicious elements are embarrassing Governor Landon. He is to be commended for his courage in admitting their presence in his camp and for his attempt to disown them.

Having granted him his just due of commendation, however, the towering fact to which he called attention still remains unaltered—the fact that everything reactionary, know-nothing, bigoted and anti-democratic has flocked to the Republican candidate.

Rarely before in American history have the issues been so sharply drawn. Two attitudes towards human problems, two philosophies of government stand in open conflict. On one side we find labor, progressives, those whose interests and sympathies are rooted in the great mass of common people; on the other side are the Liberty Leaguers, the Manufacturers Association, the representatives of special privilege and the vested rights of wealth.

Candidates Only Symbols

This basic cleavage is more important than any individual on either side. Little is gained by weighing the relative merits and characters of Mr. Landon and Mr. Roosevelt. The essential fact in this campaign is that through circumstances beyond the control of any one individual, whether a President or a would-be President, each of them has become the symbol and the rallying point for millions of Americans of a particular mental and political type.

In this light the admission by Mr. Landon that the fomentors of race hatred and exploiters of race prejudice are supporting him is, in the writer's view, a matter of the greatest importance to minority races in the American citizenry. It indicates the quality of the support being drawn by the Landon-Knox banner.

There is nothing strange in the fact that such elements find themselves almost automatically in the camp of wealth, privilege, conservatism. Bigotry and prejudice and discrimination against the weaker groups have ever been the earmarks of the privileged classes. All through history minority races have found protection and freedom only under liberal governments imbued with an understanding of and a sense of sympathy for the common man.

It is precisely that sort of liberation which the people in the Republican camp seek to stamp out and supplant. Placing dead technicalities above living realities, they offer legal alibis for not eradicating child labor and lynching and other social crimes, instead of cutting through the red-tape entanglements. Should they succeed in obtaining control of the national government, reaction will be enthroned.

The interests of Negroes, under these circumstances, coincide of necessity with the interests of labor. Those who, in terms of social advantages, sit on top of the world naturally oppose change, naturally seek to conserve institutions merely because they are old and moss-grown with tradition. The underprivileged, whether because of race or of economic status, just as naturally must insist on change in line with the larger human needs of the nation. It is this clear-cut conflict of attitude and interest which characterizes the major political line-up in this election. Labor is practically unanimous in its support of President Roosevelt's re-election. Labor's reasons for this support are the same reasons which ought to make Negro support unanimous.

A Party for Labor

The American Labor Party, which will have its own column on the New York State ballot, has found it not only possible but inevitable that President Roosevelt should be its candidate. His re-election, however, is only the immediate objective. Beyond that—and in many ways more important—is the need for a permanent party that will give direct expression to the needs and aspirations of workers, farmers, professional men, small business men, minority racial groups—all those, in short, who have a common interest in opposing the forces of hidebound conservatism and privilege.

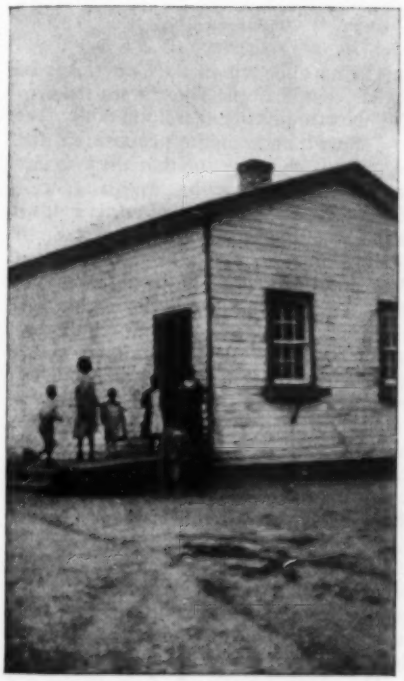
The dream of a genuine party of labor and the common people has been alive in American hearts for generations. The first attempt at forming such a party was made more than a century ago, in 1828. Numerous attempts have been made since. Usually these efforts were of a "social work" nature—by people outside the ranks of labor who hoped to interest the workers in the idea. In the American Labor Party launched a few months ago in New York, we have for the first time a party of this type rooted in organized labor. The undertaking originated with the trade-unions and was carried into effect by them. It was started with the earnest interpretation of remaining permanently. A large vote for Roosevelt and Lehman under the American Labor Party emblem will assure that permanence. This election is, in a measure, a test of the strength of the labor party idea.

Though its candidates in the present election are Democrats—because the records of Roosevelt and Lehman made this possible—the American Labor Party is a distinct and independent political party. It is in no way committed to any existing political organization. In future elections it will have its own candidates, chosen from its own ranks. A broad program of labor legislation, defense of civil and human rights for all, the eradication of social evils has been adopted. It will be pushed by the party between as well as during election periods.

The need for a new party is easy to understand. Neither of the major parties can long really feel, much less meet the needs of the common man, because of the basic group interests that they represent traditionally. That is why they have always been so "absent-minded" in regard to campaign promises. A fundamental realignment of political forces in the country is under way. In many states it has expressed itself in the emergence of progressive political organizations which are making a bid for power. Nationally it has expressed itself in Labor's Non-Partisan League and—on another front—in the National Progressive Committee. In New York State it has expressed itself in the newly founded American Labor Party.

(*Continued on page* 345)

"Equal" Schools in Virginia



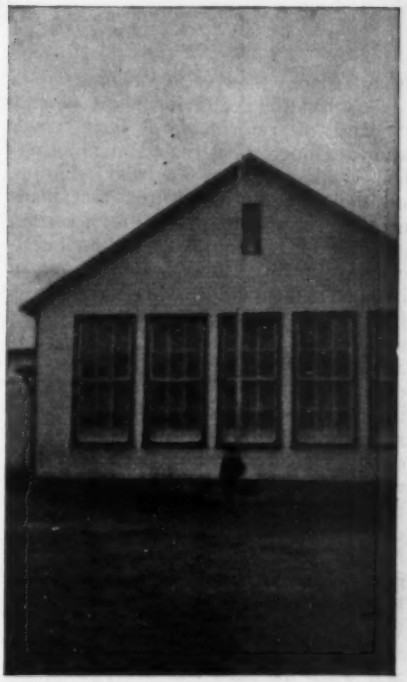
Negro school, Shelby Post Office, Va. One room, one teacher, 53 children, no school bus

HERE are two schools near Shelby Post Office, Virginia, May, 1936. The white school has three large rooms, three teachers, ninety children, with four buses to bring them to school. The equipment inside is excellent, with desks, and small tables and chairs for special activities. The picture is inadequate, and really shows only about a third of the building. It has two wings on either side of the part shown in the photograph.

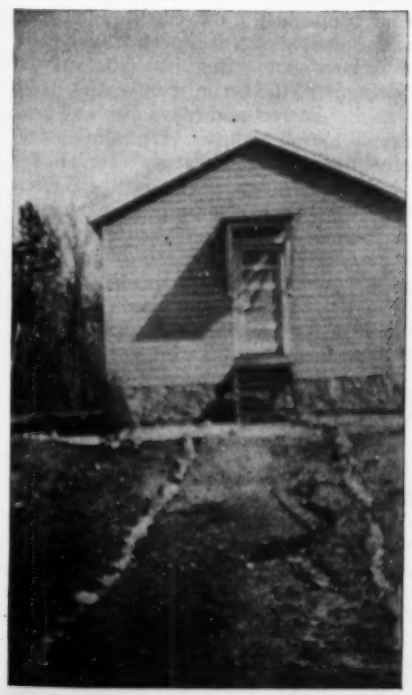
The colored school has one room, one teacher, fifty-three children, who must walk if they get to school. The children have to sit on uncomfortable home-made benches. With no equipment whatever, the teacher was trying to do a progressive job of teaching. On a rickety table in one corner of the room were some dishes and bowls, for which the teacher apologized, because it was lunch time, and she was trying to give the children hot lunches. A well had been dug four years ago, but efforts to get a pump put in had failed, and the school was getting its water from a neighbor's spring.

Here also is a picture of a Negro rural school in Prince Edward County. As far as I could learn, there are no rural schools for white children in Prince Edward County. All of the white children in the rural areas go to consolidated schools in either Prospect or Farmville. Most of them have two rooms, but only one teacher to take care of the fifty-odd children usually enrolled. There is no transportation provided. Children wishing to go to high school may go to the Rosenwald school in Farmville, provided they have enough money to pay the fifty cents a week fare to ride in a privately owned bus. I am advised that this bus is merely an old Ford truck with a make-shift body put on it.

The demonstration school in connection with the Farmville State Teachers College (white) serves as one of the white consolidated schools for the section, and is entirely supported by state money. On the other hand, the demonstration school at the Virginia State College for Negroes had to depend to a large extent on private charity for support: the General Education Board. —E. E.



White school, Shelby Post Office, Va. Three rooms, three teachers, 90 children, four school buses



Left—Negro school, Prince Edward County, Va.

Right—White consolidated school, Prince Edward County, Va.

William English Walling

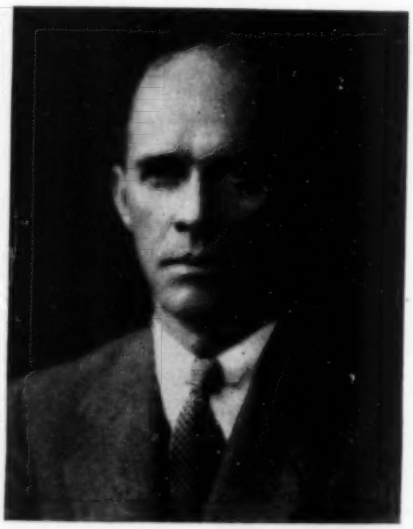
By Charles Edward Russell

Two of the people who joined the late William English Walling in founding the N.A.A.C.P. in 1909 write their tribute to him

IN more than a half-century of observation of reform movements and of reformers, I have never known a finer spirit than William English Walling. There was about him in all the incessant combating that made up the greater part of his life, a certain gallantry of bearing and a habitual self-effacement that made him a figure of both romantic and serious significance. He must have been the reincarnation of some old exultant crusader for the Holy Sepulchre. From first to last he cared nothing about himself. This is literally true, however strange it may seem to sophistication and the humanly experienced. He cared nothing even for recognition of his services or the accuracy of the record so far as he himself was concerned. With immobile indifference, he saw other men awarded the credit due to himself and never took the trouble even so much as to comment upon the injustice. He served with all his might and all his inexhaustible energy and when the fight was over, put it out of his mind as if he had never been in it or of it.

A singular fact about his career is that, born into the American aristocracy of wealth, and inheriting a fortune, he had a profound, instinctive and inviolable sympathy with all the poor and oppressed and unfortunate. Other men with similar birth have had similar inspirations, sincerely felt, sincerely followed, to a certain point—Armand, Condurcet, Lafayette. But when put to the last, terrific, all-searching test, the inheritance of class instinct has overborne their radical convictions. This man held to his faith through all good and all evil and would not waver in any storm. The criticisms of his class and the occasional attacks of hostile journals, the attacks of individuals affected him like the passing wind. Whatever he thought right to do that would he do in the scorn of consequence. I never saw a man of a more superb courage; he was absolutely dauntless.

He came of a family with a strong background of southern sympathy. His grandfather, for whom he was named, had been accused in the Civil War of being a rank Copperhead and one must admit that the accusation had basis. Without a trace of atavism, Walling looked critically, as his life was beginning, upon the strange American scene, the phenomenon of the ages, a Republic professing equality and democracy and still tolerating upon a tenth of its citizens a huge helotage; a country probably the most intelligent and best educated, tolerating the unspeakable scientific absurdity of race prejudice and race divisions. He saw the consequences of these buttressed anomalies, the disfranchised millions, denied their constitutional rights, denied the protection of the courts, denied the shield of justice, denied the opportunities of which other men boasted, denied the bare right to economic welfare, persecuted, hounded with an inexplicable but insatiable hatred, exposed to the fury of maddened mobs, lynched, burned alive. He saw all this conglomerate of horrors and set himself with dogged persistence to combat them.



Franco

WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING

There never was a campaign that bore a less auspicious promise. Wittingly or unwittingly, the entire South was virtually a unit in support of hatred and the ethics of the jungle. The Civil War raged there still, with hardly abated passions. The North was utterly indifferent where it was not covertly or sneakingly applausive of helotry. The innate, inborn, ineradicable snobbery of the Anglo-Saxon, which must always have somebody to tread upon and somebody to look up to, had differing manifestations in different regions, but was one in its effect upon the Americans of darker complexion. There were those in the North that understood fully the grotesque lunacy of the proposition that pigment is character or that there is any such thing, or can be, as an inferior race. The whole of the society from which Walling emerged was crystallized against him; to view the darker tinted American as a human being was not good form; to insist upon his rights was an insufferable gaucherie. In the entire northern press there was scarcely a newspaper that dared to demand the even hand of justice in all social relations. So far as I can now recall, there was but one printed page that insisted upon the validity of the Constitution when pigment was at issue and that was the weekly *Nation* in the hands of Oswald Garrison Villard.

Undismayed by this menacing outlook, Walling threw himself with complete abandon into the desperate fight and never turned from it so long as breath remained to him.

Hence the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, of which he was the sole originator, and creator. It was his conception and his alone. The rest of us had hoped more or less vaguely that something might be done, some movement might be organized to stay the overwhelming reactionary flood. It was Walling that saw what shape such a movement might take and called it into being and motion. I saw him soon after his return from Springfield, the scene then of the latest lynching horror, and remember well how deeply he felt about it. He called a few of us together at his flat in West Thirty-ninth Street, New York, and there week after week the whole project was worked out under his leadership. Sometimes there were only five or six of us at the meetings; I think there was never more than ten. Whether few came or many never disturbed Walling, he kept straight on. At last the plans were perfected, the first convention summoned and the Association launched upon its beneficent career.

I do not know that Walling himself visioned how great a power for good he had called into being. We never do know all the fruitage of our good deeds or our ill. But certainly in his later years he must have looked with profound satisfaction upon the practical results of those little meetings in his West Thirty-ninth Street flat. He must have reflected with gratitude upon the work of this Associa-

tion, the victims it had snatched from an unmerited gallows, the persecution it had thwarted, the pursuing hatred it had frustrated, the lives it had brightened, the millions of consciences it had awakened to the most glaring of our social transgressions, the slow but steady emancipation of people that had suffered an ineffable wrong, the slow approach toward the realities of equality. He must have rejoiced in all this and I know that if he ever reflected that his part in the creation and early steering of so great a power for good was obscured or forgotten he cared not a straw. The thing was done; that was enough for him.

It was so about his unflagging sympathy for all that toil and his long service for organized labor. One may go many times now to the headquarters of the Women's Trade Union League in Lexington Avenue, one may learn with joy of the widespread and immensely useful activities of that great organization, and never hear that it owes its founding to William English Walling. Yet such is the fact. It was his idea; he planned it and launched it.

Some men's names are embalmed in marble or bronze and some men build to themselves churches or libraries. All of these and all memory of them will be swallowed by the implacable dust. For the mighty men of earth with clamor and noise strut across the stage only to fall into oblivion at the other end. But the effects and the influences of the two organizations for good that William English Walling founded will go on when every physical trace of this generation and its plaudited actors shall have vanished. He lived; with unswerving loyalty he fought the good fight; he loved his fellow man and served him. Greater achievement is not allowed to any upon this earth. With his name all unknown to them, he sleeps, as Wendell Phillips said of John Brown, "in the blessings of the crushed and the poor," and the mind of man can conceive no more glorious epitaph.

WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING

By Mary White Ovington

WHEN the first people got together and discussed an organization that ultimately became the N.A.A.C.P., we liked to remember that of the three people present, one was a descendant of an old-time abolitionist, the second a Jew (Dr. Henry Moskowitz) and the third a southerner. The southerner was William English Walling, named English after his grandfather, who came from Kentucky. It always seemed to me that English Walling looked like a Kentuckian, tall, slender; and though he might be talking the most radical socialism, he talked it with the air of an aristocrat.

I have many times told the story of how his article in *The Independent*, drawn from his and his wife's observations of the riots at Springfield, Ill., in 1908 called for the birth of an organization that later was to take shape and become one of the most important national organizations in the United States. "Either the spirit of the abolitionists," he wrote, "of Lincoln and of Lovejoy must be revived and we must come to treat the Negro on a plane of absolute political and social equality, or Vardaman and Tillman will soon have transferred the race war to the North. Yet who realizes the seriousness of the situation, and what large and powerful body of citizens is ready to come to their aid?"

And I have told of the first meeting in his apartment in January, 1909 and of how we soon had a nucleus of earnest, uncompromising people of both races that started our national organization. He struck the spark that became our fire.

He was a man of wide information and deeply sympathetic with the oppressed of all lands. Just before his visit to Springfield he had been in Russia where his wife, Anna Strunsky, was for a short time imprisoned because of her activity among the revolutionists. His reading was enormous. He took a great variety of newspapers and his knowledge of current events, especially to a person who read few languages, was most impressive. And where his knowledge went, his sympathy for the under dog went also.

He was the first chairman of our N.A.A.C.P. Board of Directors and was instrumental in bringing Dr. Du Bois to New York to edit THE CRISIS. We were a small group then struggling to raise a budget of a few thousand dollars. Our chairman's good judgment and keen interest had much to do with keeping us alive.

He never lost interest in our Association or ceased to help us. Long absences abroad made consecutive work impossible, but he was a good man to put on a committee. His viewpoint, sometimes different from ours, caused us to stop and think. And while he abandoned his socialism, his radicalism on the race question remained with him. He wrote many books of interest, books on politics and on special labor problems. I do not recall any on the race question.

We, at our headquarters, shall miss his tall figure, his pleasant smile, his interest in all we were doing. That we have at length been able to attack discrimination in the South would especially please him. For while he enjoyed his Kentucky lineage, he was essentially an internationalist, spending much time of recent years in Geneva. The American Negro should count him among the none too large group of white Americans who drew no color line, respecting men for their achievements, and striving especially to aid the colored group in the United States.

Fellowship Supper

(*See cover*)

What can we do, and how shall we do it, to create and cement warm interracial friendships in Cleveland? What kind of affair will bring together a fairly good cross-section of interracial youth and establish a cooperative relationship? That is the question the members of the Cleveland Youth Council asked themselves last spring.

A dance? No; dances are so meaningless, and while feasible as an interracial project, mere dances hardly create the desired effect.

A banquet? No; banquets are just a little bit too formal to secure the desired effect. A Fellowship dinner? Ah, much better. A Friendship supper? The answer!

And a Friendship supper it was. Calling for representatives from cooperating groups to serve on a special planning committee including the executive committee of the Youth Council, sub-committees were set up for publicity; speakers, etc. Each committee worked diligently and as a result, more than one hundred and fifty persons were present, at least half of whom were white.

A novel seating plan was used, causing everyone to sit in certain places according to his number. Thus he was given the opportunity of meeting someone entirely new to him. The plan was unnecessary. From the very beginning, the warm, sincere spirit of cheerful friendliness that prevailed throughout, exceeded our fondest hopes. Table games were played, group singing and special numbers were featured.

The guest speaker was Powers Hapgood, personal representative of John L. Lewis, head of the C.I.O. This inspiring message was the keynote of the evening. Among others present who gave short talks were President Chester K. Gillespie, of the senior branch, which cooperated fully with the venture; Miss L. Pearl Mitchell of the national board of directors; Mrs. Catherine P. Williamson, director, and Robert E. Williams, president of the Cleveland Youth Council.

It was one glorious fun-fest. So en-

(*Continued on next page*)

Insurance Executive

LOUISE THOMPSON

Miss Thompson, a resident of New York City, is recording secretary of the International Workers Order and a member of its executive committee. The International Workers Order is a fraternal society with a membership of 107,000, including a large number of Negro members. On this national executive committee are two other colored members besides Miss Thompson. The I.W.O. furnishes protection against sickness, disability and death. The headquarters are located at 80 Fifth avenue, New York City

Fellowship Supper

(*Continued from page* 335)

thusiastic was everyone that many suggested such an affair be given semi-annually or even quarterly. However, as an annual event it will probably be of more significance and general value.

Though a non-pay affair, we gained immeasurably more than dollars and cents, in the stride forward in interracial understanding.

HARLEM HEALTH OFFICER

Dr. John B. West, who was recently appointed district health officer for Central Harlem, is a graduate of Howard Medical School. He also received a master's degree in Public Health at Harvard University. In 1930, Dr. West served as Director of Health Administration at Addis Ababa and the surrounding province of Shoa, Ethiopia. His last post, before coming to New York City, was with the Veterans Administration at Tuskegee, Alabama.

BUY N. A. A. C. P. CHRISTMAS SEALS

Designed by the young Negro artist-sculptor, Richmond Barthé.

•

Sold each year to help carry on the fight against prejudice, inequality and injustice.

•

Put them on your holiday packages, gifts, greeting cards, letters.

•

Books of 200, $2. Any amount may be purchased at 1c each. Send money orders, checks or stamps for the number desired to

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

69 Fifth Avenue NEW YORK, N. Y.

●

Ready for Distribution November 1

Editorials

The Campaign DISCARDING all the red herrings dragged across the trail by the politicians, there are, it seems to us, three issues of immediate importance to colored voters in the November 3 election. There are numerous larger issues, as well as significant, long-range philosophies, but three questions are in the foreground. They are lynching, relief and employment.

Mr. Roosevelt has not come out for a federal anti-lynching bill; neither has Mr. Landon. Both have denounced lynching and both have said some means will have to be found to wipe it out, but both have sidestepped committing themselves to a federal law.

Mr. Roosevelt's relief organizations have made considerable effort to keep racial discrimination out of relief, but they have succeeded only partially. Even with their failures, they have made great gains for the race in areas which heretofore have set their faces steadfastly against decent relief for Negroes, and above all, against white collar relief jobs for Negroes. Conditions are still far from satisfactory, but it is not to be denied that some progress has been made. Mr. Landon, in his Cleveland speech October 12, declared for state administration of relief with aid from the federal government. Thoughtful colored people, knowing conditions in the South, cannot but view this plan with misgivings. If it has been hard for a Democratic administration to bring pressure upon Democratic states in the matter of reducing discrimination in relief administration, how much more difficult will it be for a Republican administration to bring such pressure?

The Republicans promise to put the Negro workers back into the "productive life of the country"—to see that they are employed in private industry. That is one of the things Negroes need most and the fact that the G.O.P. promises to do it shows that the party is at last beginning to come out of the Abraham Lincoln clouds to solid earth. It must not be forgotten, however, that when the G.O.P. was in control of the country for twelve years, during times of great prosperity, the Negro was still a marginal worker and earned no secure place in industry. It is fair to say that in the last three years, when there was no work in private industry, the Democrats did find work for Negroes on work projects; but it is a just criticism to say that these were largely unskilled jobs, at the lowest pay, with few opportunities given for advancement to higher rank.

In the opinion of THE CRISIS, the Negro worker will find the surest way to economic security through alliance with his fellow white workers in a non-jim crow labor movement. Then he can bargain along with them for security for all. It seems a much saner method than depending on promises from the top, whether that top be Democratic or Republican. In the light of that opinion, it is necessary to say that the *tendency* of the Roosevelt administration has been to encourage labor organization and collective bargaining. The *tendency* of Mr. Landon's backers (Mr. Hearst, the Liberty League, the Manufacturers' Association, Chambers of Commerce, etc.) has been just the opposite.

Aside from these three issues, colored people have to decide whether they can take chances with a Democratic administration, many of whose leaders will be from the deep South. That is always an important question. The Republicans have betrayed the faith so frequently and relied so much on Civil War history that the question is not as sharp as it once was.

No matter who wins in November, their most vexing problems will still face colored people. For that reason it is well not to get too partisan for Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Landon so that we will have energy and a measure of unity in tackling the post-election tasks.

William E. Walling FOR its start, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is indebted to one man, William English Walling. Mr. Walling died in Amsterdam, Holland, September 12, 1936. The N.A.A.C.P. has a long and glorious history. Other illustrations names have adorned its literature and pushed its program, but had it not been for William English Walling and his flaming indignation over the riots at Springfield, Ill., in 1908, this association might never have been organized. Mr. Walling was a southerner, but his article in *The Independent*, sounded an unmistakably clear call:

"Either the spirit of the abolitionists, of Lincoln and Lovejoy must be revived and we must come to treat the Negro on a plane of absolute political and social equality, or Vardaman and Tillman will soon have transferred the race war to the North."

In New York, Miss Mary White Ovington and Dr. Henry Moskowitz heard the cry of Walling and conferred with him. Soon others, including Charles Edward Russell, joined them. Before long a conference was called, the invitation being signed by eminent American liberals of that day. The result was the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. Walling maintained a steady interest in his "child," serving as a member of its board of directors until his death. A modest man, taking no time out for honors, he has for one of his monuments the larger freedom, the brilliant achievements, the phenomenal general progress of millions of black Americans who do not even know his name, but whose status today is due largely to his righteous anger at injustice, bigotry, inhumanity and cruelty.

Keep Straight on Spain EVERYONE, including John D. M. Hamilton, the Republican campaign manager and national chairman, is telling the American people to look at what is happening in Spain. We hope the colored people are looking at the Spanish civil war, but we hope, also, that they are looking through their own eyes and not through those of William Randolph Hearst, or of the Catholic church, or of the average daily newspaper. Mr. Hearst's papers can always be relied upon for sensation, but seldom for the truth. The Catholic church has been caught up in the struggle and cruelly persecuted so that its judgment is warped (understandably) by the pain it has suffered. The average daily newspaper in this county is of sheer necessity a capitalistic enterprise, dedicated to upholding the profit system. So none of these can paint the true picture of what is happening in Spain.

Colored people, who are poor, landless, and disfranchised, should cut through all the headlines about Spain and remember only this truth: the war is between the Spanish people, poor, landless, and disfranchised, and the army, which is controlled by those who want to keep the Spanish people poor, landless and disfranchised. The prize is Spain.

Keep straight on Spain. There are horrors, of course. Bloody outrages have been committed. All that goes with any war. The kernel of the whole thing is the heroic struggle a people is making for a voice in shaping its own destiny.

Dark Noon

Pascalis La Barre

A story of a man, his dreams, his music—and Death

DURING those sultry weeks after the cotton was laid by and before it was ready to pick, the boy would lie for long hours each day beneath the elm tree. To one side was the two-room cabin that was his home. Its white-washed drabness blended somehow into the sea of cotton that threatened to engulf it. Its chimney of brick and mud seemed on the verge of crumpling up. One end of the dust-streaked porch sagged sharply beneath the weight of its rotting timber. Instead of the pleasant green of Bermuda grass, dry earth, packed hard by countless feet, covered the tiny yard. A few stalks of four-o'clocks, their red blossoms remaining closed under the midday sun, merely added to the effect of hot discouragement. Occasional cars that passed along the country road in front of the house scarcely raised the thick dust; it would rise a foot or two and then sink back as though overcome by the dry heat of the afternoon. The very air stood still. The heat waves floating between the boy and the house distorted the cabin into some fantastic toy. They distorted the little country road. They distorted the endlessly receding cotton stalks. They distorted everything except the soft blue of the summer sky, against which they whirled like so many invisible dancers.

The boy did not mind the stifling heat. He liked to watch the white-hot sun climb slowly toward its zenith. Sometimes finding its way between an opening in the elm leaves, the strong light would beat against his face. Then if his eyes were not already closed, the white sun would gently close them and leave, not its blinding whiteness, but little red suns that would grow fainter and fainter as the images faded.

The boy did not mind the dust or the heat or the drab little house. He would even hum a little as he lay there half asleep.

While passing along the quiet little road old Tom Ellis, owner of the plantation, often saw the reclining figure of the youth and looked on him half in pity, half in sympathy. Old Tom Ellis would think: "Sweating, eating, sleeping—such is their life—thinking nothing, hoping nothing, dreaming nothing. And then they die. I wonder——"

Some of the others who passed along were not so kind. If they noticed the boy at all, there was a muttered half-curse, and they would continue along their unthinking way.

Perhaps the boy did not think, perhaps he did not hope; but those that said he did not dream were wrong. He dreamed, and his dreams were filled with music. Sometimes he would play on an old battered French harp. More often he sang—to the gentle wind as it softly touched the sun's hot flush on his face. Yes, he dreamed—hopeless dreams.

In those brief years the boy went to the little country school he proved himself either unintelligent or uninterested. Perhaps this was because there was no music course given at the little school. Perhaps it was because he worked in the cotton fields during the times for the spring plowing, the period of hoeing and thinning, and the cotton-picking time. At any rate he never got out of the sixth grade.

And as the boy became a youth and the youth a man, he still dreamed. His friends liked the gay tunes he played them. They liked the rolling thunder of his rich bass voice. But they did not see the unfulfilled longing that lay under the songs. Old Tom Ellis liked the man because he was a good farmer and made a good tenant. But old Tom never saw the longing either. So the strong years flowed by as quietly, as powerfully as the sun climbing the summer sky. The man worked his cotton, he sang his songs, and he went with his friends to the little country town.

Then one Saturday evening at dusk as he was starting to leave the town, he passed the Church of the Holy Trinity. His easy walk slowed and stopped. Inside the church Miss Mary Jane Black was practicing the music for the Sunday service. The sound of the great organ was gentle, soft in the gathering darkness. The tender melody of "The Rosary" overwhelmed the man, pulling, drawing at the strings of some half-memory burned in the soul of his race. It was much later when the organ finally became silent and the man proceeded on his way home.

The next Saturday evening found him again outside the church. "Ave Maria" first held him. Then "Traumerei" drew him irresistibly closer. He mounted the steps that led to the great door. Slowly, hesitatingly he climbed them, pushed back the solid door, and peered in through the narrow crack. Perhaps he would otherwise have been frightened, but the rich music simply blotted out all of fear, all of human apprehension from his soul, and drew him forward, through the little antechamber, into the great dimly-lighted church. When his eyes became accustomed to the darkness, he slipped into a tall, back pew so quietly that even the shadows of the old church were undisturbed. And the soft dimness enveloped him.

SO it was—Saturday after Saturday. No one ever saw the solitary figure slip inside the unlocked doors; no one ever saw him come out. The great organ wove around the unnoticed listener its spell—sometimes brighter than the bright gold of the midday sun—mellow, sometimes, like the shadows of the church—and sometimes dark, dark with the power of an unrisen sun, or dark with the despair of a hopeless dream. In those evenings his music-thirsty soul drank deep. He came to know them all—"The Rosary," "The Holy City," "Ave Maria," "Meditation" from Thais, Rink's "Postlude in G," "Traumerei," and even "Barcarolle," "Calm as the Night," and "Hearts and Flowers" at those frequent times when Miss Black forgot that she was practicing for a church service. Not the names, no, the man never knew that Schubert, Mozart, or Beethoven ever lived, but he knew their music as only they themselves could have known it.

Then two evenings Miss Black played long selections from "The Messiah." For two weeks it rang in his ears. He could not escape it. The third Saturday evening he was in the church long before his usual time. Miss Black was not there. The dull gleam of the organ pipes drew him forward. Like a man in a dream he advanced up the center aisle to the very organ bench. He pushed the electric switch which he had so often seen Miss Black "click" on. He folded back the massive walnut lid and ran hypnotized fingers over the keys. He played "The Messiah." There were mistakes at first. During the first few minutes it was crude, broken, yet even then it held some strange power. Some goddess of song must have returned to earth to guide those toil-twisted fingers. Soon each valve, each key, each pedal answered to the magic of the touch. The high clear notes would blend with the thunderous volume of the bass. The treble of the "Glory to God" would fade into the magnificent "Hallelujah Chorus." The church filled with the rich beauty of music such as it had never known before. The organ was telling of glory—all the victorious, all the triumphant glory of centuries. People passing by outside stopped. Many of them had heard music, great music,

(*Continued on page* 349)

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Gov. Landon and Lynching

Rome, N. Y., *Sentinel*

ROBERT R. CHURCH, described as a Memphis business man and a leader among Negroes, has been to Topeka conferring with Governor Landon as to means for bringing that race back to full support of the Republican party. He has been quoted by the press as declaring that the presidential candidate said to him:

> In common with all law-abiding citizens of this country, I am unalterably opposed to lawlessness in all its forms and, of course, this includes lynching, which is a blot on our American civilization. We must devise some legal means which will be effective in ending this great menace to our institutions.

This has been exploited as a "declaration" if not a promise to effect anti-lynching legislation in case Mr. Landon is elected to the high office to which he aspires. But it ought not to be ignored that in this, as in so many other instances, the governor fails to explain how he proposes to effect his objective.

In this case, an explicit statement as to details would seem rather more than usually needed. For years Northern whites as well as Negroes of the whole country have been urging Congress to enact such legislation and various bills to that end have been introduced; without any one of them seeming to meet constitutional requirements. . .Every proposal yet made has appeared an invasion of the police powers of the individual states. And how consistently draft a constitutional amendment letting down the bars with respect to lynching only?

To be sure, Congress has been getting around the "reserved police power" obstacle in a constantly increasing number of cases, by invoking the inter-state principle. It is not against any law of Congress to kidnap within a single state—but woe to the perpetrators if the victim is carried across a state line. It is not against any law of Congress to steal an automobile within a state—but woe to him if the thief runs it into another state. There is no federal law against prostitution as such—but woe to the man who pays the fare of a woman on a train going from one state into another, with that end in view.

Of course the constitution makers never imagined any such open equivocation or circumlocution. However, those who demand "100 per cent enforcement of the constitution" usually condone this practice of the federal government, instead of coming out bodily for a modification of the constitution turning over most of the police powers and duties to Washington.

The recent ruling of the Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case caused Judge J. W. Pless, Jr. of Charlotte, N. C., to quash a burglary indictment against a Negro defendant and defer the trial of two Negroes charged with the offense of murder, because there were no Negroes on the Grand Jury which indicted them. The burglary charge was dismissed. Judge Pless said he acted because the defense informed him that they would cite the ruling of the United States Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case ordering a new trial because Negroes were excluded from the grand jury that indicted the defendants.

Judge Pless asked the chairman of the Board of Commission, as to why the names of Negroes were left out of the jury box, and his reply was, "well personally it was for the best interest of all concerned." This we feel is a reflection not upon the Negroes, but the whites of that community. It is also interesting to note that the chairman further stated in 1935 there were placed in the jury box the names of 625 Negroes, but they were printed in red while the names of white persons were printed in black. The difference in the color of the print being done, we say, purposely to exclude Negroes. . .—Savannah *Journal*.

Now that the League of Nations has acted, granting to Ethiopia its seat as it had before the invasion by Italy, there is no longer any excuse for the department of state letting its decision about the Italian ambassador hang fire. He came alleging that he represented not only the King of Italy, but also the Emporer of Ethiopia.

The facts are plain. Indirectly Italy seeks to have the United States agree to its theft of Ethiopia. Though not a member of the League of Nations this country coincided with the league's stand on the invasion. It certainly has no reason to do differently now. No matter how brazenly Italy comes in its guilt, in common decency this country should say it does not approve. . .—*The Call*, Kansas City, Mo.

The N.A.A.C.P. challenges the right of an Arkansas judge to impanel an all-colored jury to try a case involving colored persons.

The association declares that the deliberate calling of a colored jury, with the exclusion of whites, is just as unconstitutional as the calling of a jury of all whites and excluding colored persons.

An all-white jury violates the constitutional rights of colored people. An all-colored jury violates the same rights of white persons.

There might not be a great deal of objection to this if mixed juries were to be called in cases involving both races, and we would like to hear from the Arkansas judge on that question.

In the meantime, we'd feel safer if members of both races were called indiscriminately for jury service in all cases.—Baltimore *Afro-American*.

No one seems to object to a Federal law against interstate kidnapping or interstate bank robbing, but lynching is generally confined to the limits of one state. Nevertheless, the fifth amendment promises to every person a fair trial and a legal carrying out of the sentence which a lynching is not, and the Federal government should certainly invade any state which permits the supreme law of the land to be violated.—Hornell, N. Y., *Tribune*.

This country has never suffered so much from lack of laws as from lack of enforcement.—Cincinnati *Union*.

As long as this large number of our people remain in the cotton fields, there can be but little hope for their educational betterment. The land owners will not provide ample schooling for the children, who will in turn follow the footsteps of their elders. These mechanical cotton pickers may yet prove a boon for thousands of our people.—Savannah *Tribune*.

The Negro and the Federal Theatre

By Anne Powell

The Federal Theatre, under the WPA, has presented Negro plays and players to audiences from New York to Seattle and through the South

BEFORE the advent of the Federal theatre, the Negro had little opportunity to express in dramatic terms the emotional vitality and creative impulses of his race.

In music his work songs and spirituals rose spontaneously from the life of his people to make the greatest contribution to folk lore in America. Coming as it did from the inspirational wells of the race, these songs had sufficient richness and depth to provide the rhythmic and thematic material for so large a musical form as a symphony—which Anton Dvorak wrote many years ago.

In the theatre, however, the Negro made little progress. The theatre, being the most expensive of all the arts, must be nurtured with money, and by people trained in the staging of dramatic productions. Neither of these requisites did the Negro possess to any large degree.

It wasn't until the WPA came to his rescue last November by establishing the Federal theatre, that the possibility for a Negro theatre, rooted in the life of its people, could even be contemplated.

Prior to this the Negro found limited opportunities in both the commercial theatre and movies for the expression of his histrionic talents. Both these mediums were predominantly concerned with the entertainment and problems of the American people in general.

Whenever he has played in the commercial theatre it has been the Negro's misfortune to find himself cast as actor in roles which were usually stereotyped, limited in scope, and often uncomplimentary. With the few rare exceptions in the musical comedy and vaudeville field, the situation was even worse for the Negro who wanted to be either technician, stage manager or director. This field even now is closed to the Negro.

Depression Hits Theatres

The few small Negro theatre groups which existed and which provided the Negro with his only opportunity to acquire the necessary technical experience and equipment for the theatre, have in the main been wiped out by the depression. Those remaining could only absorb a small fraction of the Negro people who felt they had something vital to contribute to the American stage.

It is small wonder that the Negro was handicapped! And more amazing than ever to this writer, that thus limited, he has been able to skyrocket—after nine months work with the Federal theatre—several hits into this year's theatre season—not only in New York City with "Macbeth," but in other parts of the country as well.

Actually the Negro in the theatre (unlike any of the other minority races who have brought their stages and literatures from Europe to America) has to break ground for a new and no mean cultural undertaking.

The Federal theatre is rapidly helping him to eradicate those technical faults which may hinder his progress. In all of the nine Negro projects in this country—Boston, Massachusetts; New York City (2); Newark, New Jersey; Tampa, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; Birmingham, Alabama; Seattle, Washington; Los Angeles, California—many of the directors are Negroes, but where there are white directors, theirs is only a temporary job, to be filled just as soon as Negro directors can be found to handle the work competently. As John Houseman, director of the New York unit put it:

"Owing to the very limited opportunities hitherto open to Negroes in technical and directorial departments of the existing commercial theatre, such specialized workers are not easily available. It is therefore the function of Miss McClendon's (the late actress and one of the founders of the project) non-Negro technical associates to find and train Negroes who shall replace them in all departments at the earliest time possible."

At present an interesting controversy rages among theatre people about just what type of drama the Negro people should be given. This always happens where the needs of the people have not yet made themselves felt. It is particularly the case with the Negro people, who in the main, have had little contact with the living theatre. To what extent this is true can easily be gleaned from the fact that only about 25% of the people in Harlem, the largest and most cosmopolitan Negro center, have even seen a legitimate show.

Entertainment or Education?

On one fact all these controversialists are in accord: Whatever the subject matter, the legitimate stage, unlike the movies, must give good theatre if it wishes to attract an audience. But from this point on all agreement ceases. There are these who would have a theatre produce plays having entertainment value only. Others would give plays of a functional nature—where people could come for clarification and enlightenment. Still others would like to continue reviving classics, both the new and the old, exclusively.

One quite articulate young man almost jolted this writer out of her seat by worrying over the success of "Macbeth."

"Plays like 'Macbeth' tend to make

WPA photo

Scene from "Turpentine" at the Lafayette Theatre, New York

the Negro theatre too spectacular," he declared. "The press stresses the Negro's love for riotous color and glamorous productions so much that I'm afraid ours will become a 'fad' theatre and so lose in vitality and strength."

(An interesting sidelight, which we had personally missed.)

It seems to us a theatre which will be definitely characteristic of the Negro people will take a long time in coming. It will take years of hard work—years of constant testing of public responses before some member of the race will gather all the divergent trends and crystallize them into a dramatic form, genuine and vital enough to embody the needs, thoughts, and desires of the Negro people.

Meanwhile the Federal theatre is assisting in this work by creating audiences for the plays already being presented. It is hoped that they will be drawn from the millions of Negroes who people America, and not from the isolated few who happen to be interested in the theatre.

The last is not a simple task, as can be seen by the experience of the groups performing in various parts of the country. The audiences for Negro theatre up to now have been mostly non-Negro —though the percentage has been considerably decreased since the entrance of the Federal theatre into the field.

In Seattle and Los Angeles the audiences have been predominately white; in Newark and Boston there has been about a fifty-fifty percentage.

In Louisiana, where there is no Negro project, but where the Federal theatre gave with the help of 170 volunteer Negro actors and singers Paul Green's "Roll Sweet Chariot," the audiences for the performances were mainly Negro. In Chicago, the Negro project performed in Lodge Hall on the South Side, and appealed to a Negro audience.

In Seattle and Los Angeles as well as New York City the Negro projects are housed in their own theatres. This will obtain in Chicago in a few weeks. It is interesting to note that the percentage of Negroes in audiences are smaller in those cities where the Negro units possess their own theatres, and larger where the groups perform in halls and settlement houses in or around the Negro districts.

However progress is being made in this direction and it shouldn't be long before a permanent Negro theatre-going public is created—especially with the favorable reaction the Negro plays have already received from both the public and the press.

Press comments from Seattle follow: Post Intelligencer: "There were knockout punches for both the acting cast and the audience at the Repertory Playhouse last night when the Paul Peters-George Sklar drama "Stevedore" was presented as a Federal Theatre Project with a Negro cast and chorus of seventy-five. Each impact of fists during the fights between colored dockworkers, white bosses and union men was felt across the footlights as an emotional wallop by a tense and fascinated audience."

Seattle, Washington (again): "A Black faced Noah lifts his shining face to Heaven to talk to God as he putters with building of the Ark, worried over whether to add a rudder; a Negro cast frolics on the stage and judiciously mixes modern slang with Biblical atmosphere. The net result is Noah, a stirring three act play presented by the WPA Negro Project with surprising results."

It seems unnecessary to quote the rave notices "Macbeth" received in New York City. So much has already been written about it, and much more will be written about it by the time it has finished touring the states. The cast will climax their activities in September when they represent the Federal theatre at the Texas Centennial at Dallas.

"Turpentine" which has replaced "Macbeth" at the Lafayette deserves attention—since it is not only a stirring play but also a significant social document on conditions in the turpentine fields of central Florida.

Variety of Plays

The theatre fare given in other parts of the country is very varied in character, ranging from revivals of modern and popular classics to plays written by hitherto unknown dramatists on themes dealing with the immediate problems of the Negro people.

"Brother Mose," a play by Frank Wilson, recounting the adventures of a Negro community where oil was discovered, has had a very successful run in Newark.

Boston has a very active Negro unit headed by Ralf Coleman. They have given several full length plays: "Genesis," an original biblical fantasy by Charles Flato and H. Jack Bates; a straight revised version of "Macbeth"; "The Reverend Takes His Text" and others. One act plays, many of which are original manuscripts, have also been popular with this group.

Chicago has three productions to its credit. The first "Romey and Julie," a comedy takeoff on the Romeo and Juliet theme, written by Robert Dunmore, in collaboration with Ruth Chorpenning. Lou Payton, an actor attached to the project wrote "Did Adam Sin" for the second, and the last, which we found particularly interesting was a version of the old morality play "Everyman" done with an all Negro cast.

The Negro group in Birmingham, Alabama was the first Federal group to open its doors to an audience in that state, on April 16 when they presented "Home in Glory" a symphonic drama depicting a phase of Negro life. It was so popular that it was immediately taken out on tour to neighboring cities.

It is impossible to review in complete detail the work of all the units. All are working with earnest devotion toward building a theatre which will be by, with, and for the Negro.

It is no longer necessary to dream about a Negro People's theatre. The groundwork for one is being laid by the WPA Federal Negro Project today.

MEHARRY STUDENTS RANK HIGH IN NATIONAL EXAM

Medical students at Meharry Medical College have again made honor grades on the National Board of Medical Examiners in the June examination.

Five students took *Part I*, and all of them passed. Of the six hundred (600) who took the Board, Frank W. Claytor, a junior medical student at Meharry, made the highest grade in physiology, with an average of 98 in the subject. Young Claytor tied for the fourth place on honor roll.

The following Meharry students took Part I:

Frank W. Claytor with general average of 91

Lewis F. Boddie with general average of 88.83

Wells E. A. Forde with general average of 86.83

H. Binford Hollis with a general average of 86.50

Milton H. Lambright with general average of 85.83

Three of Meharry's graduates took Part II of the National Board of Medical Examiners, and on this examination Dr. Milton D. Quigless tied for the highest grade in surgery, with an average of 94. He also stood first on honor roll of all contestants.

Dr. F. E. Younge, Class of 1936, made the highest average of all contestants in Pediatrics, making a grade of 93.

Dr. Carroll X. Holmes, Class of 1936, made fine grades with a general average of 86.

Both Dr. Younge and Dr. Holmes were honor students in the Class of 1936.

Dr. Quigless is a graduate of Class of 1934-35. He served his internship at City Hospital No. 2, St. Louis, Mo., in 1934-1935, and for the past year was assistant professor of physiology.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Pennsylvania Conference Meets

The Pennsylvania State Conference of N.A.A.C.P. Branches held its third annual meeting in Media, Pa., September 13-14 with delegates present from a majority of the 26 branches in the state.

A mass meeting was held Sunday afternoon in the Media high school auditorium with Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin presiding. Speakers were Walter White and Miss Juanita E. Jackson of the national office and Isadore Martin of Philadelphia.

On Monday, the business sessions were held in the Campbell A.M.E. church. The president, Dr. J. A. Gillespie, presided. Miss Jackson explained the tentative plan of organization for Youth Councils and Mrs. Deane B. Leftwich of Johnstown was elected state organizer of Youth Councils.

Reports were given by officers and delegates concerning their work during the year, and committees appointed.

During the afternoon session Herbert E. Millen of Philadelphia reviewed the Atlee case and A. D. Stevenson of Pittsburgh spoke on the Pennsylvania civil rights law and the proposed amendment.

The following officers were elected: President, Dr. J. A. Gillespie, New Castle, Pa.; vice-presidents, R. L. Porter, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Columbus Quarles, Johnstown, Pa.; A. D. Stevenson, Pittsburgh, Pa.; O. B. Cobb, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; recording secretary, Mrs. Mary E. Johnston, Sewickley, Pa.; corresponding secretary, Miss Anna E. Taylor, New Castle, Pa.; treasurer, R. G. Fields, Media, Pa.

Board of Directors: I. Maximilian Martin, Philadelphia; Mrs. H. H. Kennedy, Pittsburgh; Dr. C. M. Colden, Aliquippa; Robert G. Fields, Mrs. Mary E. Johnston, Dr. J. A. Gilllespie, R. L. Porter, Columbus Quarles and O. B. Cobb.

The committee on plan and program recommended that the former program be carried out as it had to do with the distribution of jobs by federal, county and municipal agencies, the civil rights bill, the placing of colored officers in the Civilian Conservation Corps, the wise use of the ballot to secure justice and to see that the law which prohibits discrimination on public works because of race, creed or color is enforced.

The committee also recommended that during the coming year every effort should be put forth to stimulate greater interest in the branches.

The conference adjourned at 6 o'clock to meet in Sewickley, Pa., September 11 and 12, 1937.

Walter White Addresses Ohio State Conference

Ohio N.A.A.C.P. members held their annual state conference September 25, 26, 27 at Youngstown, Ohio, at the Federal street Y.M.C.A.

The conference opened Friday evening with a meeting of the executive committee, followed by a program under the direction of J. M. Dickerson.

More than 100 delegates attended the Saturday session. They were welcomed by Assistant Law Director W. E. Lewis in the absence of the mayor. The secretary, S. S. Booker, led the devotionals. The Rev. R. G. Morris and the Rev. Andrews were other speakers.

Common Pleas Judge David G. Jenkins participated in a discussion of the "American Negro," a feature of the afternoon program.

Sunday morning hundreds of local people attended a breakfast at which Prof. Carl Soule, Mt. Union college, was the principal speaker, and Leslie Shaw of the Columbus police department and Chester Gillespie of Cleveland gave talks.

A mass meeting at the Centenary Methodist church Sunday afternoon concluded one of the most successful conferences in the history of the association, according to Mrs. Mary A. Exum, and S. S. Booker of the executive committee.

The principal address was given by Walter White of New York. The Nathaniel Dett Musical Society sang with Mrs. Viola Harrison as soloist.

A. A. Andrews of Canton, was re-elected president; E. M. Lancaster of Akron, first vice-president; Miss L. Pearl Mitchell of Cleveland, second vice-president; G. G. Dickinson of Columbus, fourth vice-president; T. M. Berry of Cincinnati, treasurer; and Mrs. Lillian Upthegrove of Toledo, secretary.

The board of directors includes William Howard of Youngstown; Mrs. Hazel Tindal of Massillon; William McKnight of Toledo; John L. Stevens of Zanesville; and Miss Estelle R. Davis of Newark.

Civil Rights Law Upheld

The Pennsylvania civil rights law, passed in 1935 and signed by Governor Earle, was declared constitutional in Pittsburgh, October 9, by the Quarter Sessions Court of Allegheny county, Judges Braham and McCann presiding.

The test of the constitutionality arose when John Psaras who operates a restaurant in Pittsburgh sought a new trial after being convicted of refusing to serve a cup of coffee to a Negro. In his motion for a new trial, Psaras charged that the state civil rights law was unconstitutional. The court held the law to be constitutional and denied him a new trial.

Following a denial of the motion for a new trial, Psaras was given a suspended sentence and placed on probation for one year. Judge Braham stated that he would have fined Psaras $50 if he could do so under the law, but he could not conscientiously impose the minimum fine of $100 specified by the law. Hence he suspended sentence. Psaras must pay the costs of the court action which are estimated between $75 and $100.

The case originated January 23, 1936, when Walter Wilson, a colored man, and Terrance McManus, a white man, were cleaning snow off the streets of Pittsburgh. They went into the Psaras restaurant and ordered a cup of coffee each. Psaras, who was behind the counter, went back into the kitchen without serving the two men and called the white man back and told him the restaurant did not serve colored people. The two then left. In court McManus testified to this, but Psaras defended himself by saying that he had merely told McManus that the two men would have to occupy a booth near the kitchen if they wanted to be served. The jury heard both versions and decided against Psaras.

The law firm of Homer Brown and Richard T. Jones handled the case.

Christmas Seal Sale Opens in November

The annual sale of N.A.A.C.P. Christmas seals to raise funds for the association will get under way early in November under the direction of Miss Juanita E. Jackson of the national office staff. Many branches already have appointed chairmen of Christmas seal sales in their cities and sent the names to the national office. Those who have not done so are urged to act without delay. The seals will be ready for distribution on or before November 1. The nation-wide goal this year is $5,000. The total from the 1935 sale was $2,100.

Baltimore Drive Raises $1,800

A ten-day membership campaign conducted by the Baltimore, Md., branch netted the fine return of 1,550 members, $1,800. The campaign was divided into four sections with the Women's Division, headed by Miss Enolia Pettigen reporting 810 members, $915.50; the Men's Division under the direction of Charles C. Key, reporting 534 members, $619.75; the Youth's Division reported 172 members, $148. Mrs. Augusta T. Chissell, chairman of the special gifts reported 19 memberships, $115. The workers at the closing meeting were enthusiastic at the returns and voted unanimously to continue the campaign for ten days during which time they were certain to reach the goal of 2,000 members.

An interesting feature of the campaign was the fact that memberships were given by the Governor of Maryland, Hon. Harry W. Nice and the Mayor of Baltimore, Hon. Howard W. Jackson. Judge Eli Frank was among the larger contributors. Outstanding colored and white citizens contributed sums from $25 down to annual memberships of $1.00.

Interest is keen in the Baltimore branch because of the splendid victory won in the University of Maryland case where two Negro students are now enrolled, and in the fight now being made to secure a high school for Negroes in Baltimore County where there are eleven schools for white children and none for colored.

Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary, conducted the campaign. The president of the branch, Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, who in one year has stimulated the interest in Baltimore to the point where there is an enrollment of nearly 3,000 members, secured the cooperation of churches, schools, civic and fraternal organizations in backing the campaign. Mrs. Jackson is supported by the executive board of fifty of Baltimore's most outstanding citizens who gave 100% in helping to make the campaign such a brilliant success. Another interesting feature of the campaign was the awarding of prizes which were donated by merchants, to the solicitors bringing in the largest number of memberships. Many valuable prizes were received with appreciation as a surprise in the campaign.

Tiny Bradshaw's orchestra, playing at the Club Astoria, took out one hundred per cent memberships in the N.A.A.C.P. during the campaign.

Candidates for Congress Support N.A.A.C.P. Program

A total of 243 candidates for election to congress had answered the N.A.A.C.P. questionnaire up to October 15, pledging themselves to support and vote for a federal anti-lynching bill and to oppose discrimination on account of race or color in the civil service, relief jobs and other employment. More than 700 candidates of all political parties in all parts of the United States were circularized by the N.A.A.C.P. Even if only one-third of the 243 candidates are successful in the election, the association will have an important nucleus in congress through which to work for its objectives.

Second Student Admitted To Maryland Law School

Calvin Douglass of Baltimore, Maryland, has been admitted as a student in the night class, first year, of the University of Maryland law school. Douglass is the second colored student to be admitted to the university law school, the first being Donald Gaines Murray whose entrance was secured by a successful law suit against the university last year. The basic contention of the law suit was that the state was supplying professional training for white students in the tax-supported University of Maryland, but was denying such training to Negro students, and that that denial was contrary to the Constitution. In the Murray case the court held that the state was obligated to supply a first-class law school for Negroes or else would have to admit them to the existing law school. A similar suit is pending against the University of Missouri for denying its law school to a Negro applicant and another suit is pending against the University of Tennessee for denying its school of pharmacy to a Negro applicant.

Thurgood Marshall Joins N.A.A.C.P. Staff

Thurgood Marshall of Baltimore, Maryland, chief counsel in the successful suit against the University of Maryland (the Donald Gaines Murray case), joined the N.A.A.C.P. legal staff October 15. Mr. Marshall will work with Charles H. Houston, special counsel, on the campaign for educational equality. He has been engaged for a period of six months to do special research work. Mr. Marshall is chief counsel in the case now in the Maryland courts against the school officials to provide high school facilities in the county for colored students. There are eleven high schools for white students, but none for Negroes in Baltimore county.

Paul Henderson photo

Tiny Bradshaw and his orchestra playing in the popular Club Astoria in Baltimore, Md., joined the N.A.A.C.P. one hundred per cent in the recent membership campaign. Mr. Bradshaw is shown presenting a check to Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin

Branch News

MEETINGS

Lawyer speaks. The **Coffeyville, Kans.,** branch heard Elisha Scott of Topeka in an address given in the Cleveland school September 24.

Musical program. The **Monrovia, Calif.,** branch met September 25 in the Second Baptist church. The speaker was Dr. H. C. Hudson, president of the Federated N.A.A.C.P. branches of California. Mrs. Blossie Adams was chairman of the entertainment committee which arranged a musical program.

Annual meeting. The **Bridgeport** and **Stratford, Conn.,** branches joined forces in organizing their annual meeting to hear William Pickens. The meeting was held at Messiah Baptist church, October 4. Local talent furnished a musical program with Mrs. French Z. Flack as guest soloist.

Mass meeting. Dr. Louis T. Wright, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and chairman of the N.A.A.C.P., spoke at the monthly meeting of the **New Rochelle, N. Y.,** branch October 11.

Presides at Civic Club. The Auburn, N. Y., Civic Club heard Nelson Ray, who presided, give reports from bulletins of the N.A.A.C.P. at a meeting held September 30.

Dean Pickens speaks. The **Stamford, Conn.,** branch of the N.A.A.C.P. held a meeting September 27 which was addressed by Dean William Pickens. Members from Greenwich and Stamford attended the

meeting which was held at the Union Baptist church. Mr. Pickens spoke on the history of the association and its present activities.

The Rev. W. M. Wilson, pastor of the church of God in Christ, offered prayer; the Rev. B. L. Matthews, pastor of the Union Baptist church, extended greetings in behalf of the church and the community; the Rev. D. D. Davis, pastor of the Bethel A.M.E. church, and president of the local branch, gave a resume of branch achievements.

Music was furnished by the New England Four Quartet and Miss Helen Fields. Mrs. Daisy Pelman arranged the program and was in charge of the rally that followed. Special contributions were made by the Church of God in Christ, the Mothers' Community Club and the Willing Workers Society of the Union Baptist church.

The following members of the special committee, with Mrs. Rhoda Page as chairman, were responsible for the affair; Mmes. Daisy Pelman, Lucy Johnson, Ruth Nicholson, Carrie M. Terrell, Hattie Brooks, Ivy Maize, Leona Woods, Isabelle Holmes, Emily Woodson, Marie Nullhouse, Mary Armstead and Miss Dora Johnson. Also Larkin Bell, Robert Graham, Randolph Maize and Dr. A. N. Grant.

The **Marion County, W. Va.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. heard H. H. Rose, president of the county board of education, at a meeting held at the Dunbar school October 4. Miss Gretchen Branch, musical instructor at the school, was in charge of the music at the meeting.

Playgrounds asked. Gordon Jones, vice-president of the **Jamaica, N. Y.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P., was one of the speakers at an outdoor meeting promoted to dramatize the district's need of more playgrounds and other recreational facilities. Mr. Jones declared that recreational centers are important in reducing juvenile delinquency.

WPA discrimination. The executive committee of the **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, branch met at the home of Dr. Leon W. Scott, September 29. Dr. Uriel Gunthorpe reported that segregation of workers employed on a WPA project, objected to by the branch, would be ended, according to a WPA official.

Caleb Peterson, winner of the national dramatic declamation contest held in Oklahoma last year, joined the branch. He spoke at Peekskill October 8 at a meeting attended by a delegation from New Rochelle.

Candidates speak. At a meeting of the **St. Louis, Mo.**, branch held in the Y.M.C.A. October 2, Congressman Thomas C. Hennings, Jr., and his Republican opponent L. C. Dyer, addressed the members.

Forum. The **Chester, Pa.**, branch held its first fall meeting October 6, at the William Wilson Memorial Day Nursery. The program was in charge of Viola Fontain. The Rev. J. Pines Barbour gave a report of his activities at the Baltimore conference. The chairman of the forum committee was Theodore Swiggett, an instructor at the Douglass junior high school. Others members of the committee were Paul Blackstone, Herman Laws, the Misses Emma Mell and Beatrice Harmon.

Monthly program arranged. Mrs. J. A. Franklin, chairman of the Woman's Auxiliary, **Charleston, W. Va.**, branch has arranged the following programs for the Auxiliary meetings:

September, Fall Festival of Song; October, address by Mrs. Mae S. Stratton, director of Crippled Children's Division under the West Virginia State Welfare department; November, book review, James Weldon Johnson's "Along This Way"; December, discussion of Maude Cuney-Hare's book "Negro Musicians and Their Music"; January, symposium on "The Negro's Contribution to the Art of the Theatre"; February, an address on "Abraham Lincoln" by Rabbi Ariel Goldburg; March, A Continental Travelogue; April, piano recital; May, book review, Josephine Lawrence's "If I Had Four Apples."

DISCRIMINATION

Committee formed. Plainfield, N. J., citizens have formed a committee against racial discrimination. The chairman, Melvin Halsey, is city chairman of the local N.A.A.C.P.; the treasurer, Harry Posner, manager of the Plainfield local of the ILGWU; secretary, Miss Newmark, of the American League Against War and Fascism; George Norman, Young Communist League; Mrs. Horace Vanderbeck, Plainfield Interracial committee; Sebastian Liberty, representing the Neighboring Community of Freedom Hill; Aaron Allen, Moorland branch of the Y.M.C.A. The Women's Achievement Club, Negro History Club and Thomas Paine branch of the I.W.O. are also represented.

The legal committee includes the following attorneys: Mr. Golat of the I.L.D.; Mr. Jordan of the N.A.A.C.P.; and Mr. Marks of the Civil Liberties Union. The committee will take such action as is necessary against the continual practice of discrimination against Negroes in many of Plainfield's restaurants, theatres and hotels. The first meeting of the committee was held September 14 when the final details of the campaign were discussed.

Discrimination denied. Pickets have been withdrawn from the New Theatre, Rockaway Beach Boulevard, Rockaway Beach, N. Y., following a conference of the Citizens' Committee Against Race Discrimination and the manager of the theatre. The local paper acted as intermediary. The manager of the theatre explained that no discrimination against any race was or ever would be shown at the New Theatre. All present agreed there had been a misunderstanding. Members of the Citizens' Committee were Joseph Stone, Walter Hodge, Fred Peterson, Louis Monza and Ike Hoffman. Stanley Rosenberg, editor of the **Argus**, acted as secretary.

The organizations represented on the committee are: The Rockaway and Neponsit branches of the American League Against War and Fascism; the Socialist Party of the fifth A.D.; the Communist Party of the fifth A.D.; the N.A.A.C.P.; the Rockaway branch of the Farmer Labor Party, and the Painter's Union, local 795.

Report. Mrs. L. D. Hodge, president of the **Montgomery, W. Va.**, branch, gave a report of the Baltimore convention at a meeting of the local association held September 13. The members met in the John Wesley M. E. church.

Educator speaks. The **Charleston, W. Va.**, branch held its first meeting of the year September 27 at the Garnet high school auditorium. Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president of Palmer Memorial institute of North Carolina, gave the address of the afternoon.

The Crisis pushed. The **Stamford, Conn.**, branch has a special committee selling The Crisis. The money from sales goes into the rental fund.

At the August meeting several new members were enrolled. The committee in charge of raising money reported a fair sum obtained for national headquarters. The guest speaker was Lester P. Barlow who explained the object of the town relief investigation committee. Several views of the present relief situation and its effect on citizens, were presented by Dr. Grant, Randolph Maize, Mrs. Carol McEachin, president Davis and Mrs. Ruth Nicholson.

Labor Day picnic. The **Media, Pa.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P., had a picnic on Labor Day at the home of Dr. Jesse H. Holmes of Moylan. Leslie Pinckney Hill, president of the faculty of the Chaney Training School, addressed the gathering in the afternoon.

The **Scranton, Pa.**, branch held its first fall meeting September 14, in the rooms of the Progressive Recreation and Social Service Association. The guest speaker was Lowell Henry. Mrs. Zenobia Dorsey, president, and Mrs. Bessie Smith, secretary were in charge. A social hour followed the program.

PROTESTS

Partisanship denied. Members of the Denver, Colo., branch are planning a meeting to protest the action of their president, Harry E. Polk, in making it appear that the N.A.A.C.P. is backing the candidacy of Gov. Johnson for the U. S. Senate. Mr. Polk is a messenger in the office of the governor.

The alleged endorsement revolves around an exchange of letters between Polk and the governor. The letters asked the candidate's stand on anti-lynching legislation. Later the letters were published in a neighborhood paper which was distributed to each Negro home. The paper had used the context of the letters to suggest an endorsement of the governor's candidacy.

Dr. H. P. Westbrook, a member of the board of directors, declared in announcing the meeting plans, that the N.A.A.C.P. is strictly non-partisan.

Gov. Johnson stated, in his letter, that he would work for an anti-lynching law.

YOUTH COUNCIL NEWS

Youth secretary speaks. The **Flint, Mich.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. heard Miss Juanita E. Jackson lecture September 30 at Mt. Olive Baptist church. Her subject was "The Promotion of Youth."

Joint meeting. The youth branch of **Gary, Ind.**, met with the seniors of the local association September 25 to hear Juanita Jackson, special assistant to the secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. The speaker urged that Negroes organize and fight for educational, economic, political and social advancement, citing cases of jim-crowism throughout the United States. The meeting was held in the Israel C.M.E. church and was organized by Alfred M. Hall, president of the local branch and George Gatlin, head of the youth council. A summary of the work done by the young people's group in vocational guidance and job placements was given by Mr. Gatlin.

A. B. Carberg, an instructor at Emerson school, also spoke. His subject was the "Constitution of the United States." Miss Jackson was introduced by the chairman, J. W. Golden, and H. T. Taum, principal of Roosevelt high school, introduced the second speaker. About 250 members of the Gary branch, which has 500 enrolled, attended the meeting.

Symposium on politics. The **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, youth council held a political symposium October 15 at the Bethes-

da Baptist church. All the political parties were invited to send representatives to talk on the subject "What my party has to offer youth."

Entertainments. During the summer the **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, youth council gave a novelty lawn party and bingo party.

A forum for the senior branch, on the subject "Opportunities for Negro Youth," was presented by the young peoples group, at the regular monthly meeting of the senior N.A.A.C.P. of the same city.

Picketing successful. The **Gary, Ind.**, youth group has been waging a campaign to secure jobs for Negro boys and girls in the Negro sections of the city. They picketed every large and small store, in an area of sixteen blocks, that could afford to employ a boy or girl. Using hand bills instead of posters, they succeeded in placing colored employees in thirty-five of the fifty stores picketed. They receive the same wages as white boys and girls doing the same work.

A committee was appointed to check on these stores every two weeks.

Questionnaire to teachers. The **Brooklyn, N. Y.**, junior branch of the N.A.A.C.P. recently sent letters to six principals of elementary schools asking their opinion on the question of Negro education. One five-page reply has already been received and others are expected.

Each Sunday conferences are held and teachers, both colored and white, are invited to participate in the discussion. The members analyze the arguments and opinions expressed and then arrive at certain generalizations.

Mass Meeting. The public was invited to attend a meeting at the Phillips C.M.E. church at **Indianapolis, Ind.**, September 24, addressed by Miss Juanita E. Jackson representing the N.A.A.C.P. A group of young people heard the speaker earlier in the day.

Officers elected. The **Morristown, N. J.**, youth council branch recently elected its officers for the coming year. Lois Alexander will serve as president; Victor Goines, vice-president; Tizella Spells, secretary; Kate Martin, assistant secretary; Evelyn Watson, corresponding secretary; and Weldon Lewis as treasurer. The adviser of the branch is Mrs. Beatrice Tucker.

CAMPAIGN

Crisis campaign. The **Cambridge, Mass.**, youth branch realized $17 from its back-to-school dance held in September. During August they had their first annual picnic.

The campaign drive planned for the fall, will stress educational and historical matters as they affect young colored people. The president, Julia Lewis, is enlisting the support of all who believe in the aims of the N.A.A.C.P.

This youth division is undertaking the sale of 100 copies of The Crisis each month and expects to make Boston "Crisis conscious," as sales increase.

MEETINGS

Discrimination scored. Louis B. Burnham, an officer of the Student Council of C.C.N.Y., condemned racial discrimination in the field of education in a speech before the **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, branch September 13. The session was conducted by the Youth Council of the local N.A.A.C.P. Mr. Burnham's subject was "Youth Problems Today." He also reported the Baltimore conference.

Theodore Archer presided at the panel discussion following the address. Dorcas Boddie sang two spirituals accompanied by Catherine Graves at the piano.

Lecture. The **Youngstown, Ohio,** branch heard Miss Juanita Jackson, youth council secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., at a meeting held September 19 in Centenary church. All youth organizations of the city were invited to attend the lecture.

Adult members of the branch were addressed by the same speaker at the Belmost branch of the Y.W.C.A. at seven in the evening.

Along the Battlefront

(*Continued from page* 327)

lic opinion finding its will expressed in federal anti-lynching legislation.

The fight is not yet over, but there have been moments when victorious skirmishes have given augury of the final result. Such, for instance, was the year 1922, when under the brilliant leadership of James Weldon Johnson, an anti-lynching bill passed the house:

"The following year, the sharpest drop in the annual toll of lynchings occurred during the history of lynching in the U. S."

Or in 1934, when Walter White had brought the battle to the Senate floor—

Of seventeen lynchings, two occurred early in January. *Then there was a complete cessation of lynching* until it was evident, in June that Congress would adjourn without voting on the bill."

The mass pressure of "the forty million", implementing a Federal Anti-lynching law can break the grip of the mob. This, with increased educational and economic opportunity will make lynching a memory. The nationwide demonstration is a next step toward the LYNCHLESS YEAR.

Youth in Action

Five thousand one hundred and two persons have been lynched. Sixty per cent were under twenty-five.

Countless have been the mobs, but they were composed chiefly of *persons in their late teens* and early twenties.

Youth lynches and is lynched!

But the lynchers do not represent the new Youth—black and white—which through their united endeavor will win at last a LYNCHLESS AMERICA.

They will do it through hard work—educating and organizing for legal action.

They will do it through dramatic, militant protest, not only next February, but every time a lynching occurs.

They will do it through building a new social order where the pattern of violence—whether of Klan, Black Legion, labor thug, or lynch mob—will be absent because unnecessary.

Duluth, Minn.

Labor Party

(*Continued from page* 332)

In this groping lies the promise of a national labor party. The success of the party in New York State would be the surest guarantee that the promise will be translated into fact. We call upon voters in New York State, therefore, not merely to vote for Roosevelt and Governor Lehman, but to vote for them under the emblem of the American Labor Party: a handclasp against a gear-wheel.

Roosevelt and Lincoln

President Roosevelt is by far the most liberal and social-minded leader the American people have had in the White House since Abraham Lincoln. By their enemies shall ye know them! The circumstance that reactionary Democrats have abandoned Roosevelt is a measure of the change that has come into American political life. Abraham Lincoln, were he alive today, would be on Roosevelt's side as inevitably as all humanitarian leaders are on his side. The very fact that the Liberty Leaguers and Manufacturers Association crowd have "ganged up" on Roosevelt would have sufficed to win over a man of Lincoln's broad sympathies with the mass of ordinary people.

The force of tradition is strong. Old loyalties to the Republican Party among the Negro people are understandable. But in a changing world new alignments are unavoidable. The American Labor Party, breaking with both of the major parties, and breaking at the other end with the sectarian type of social protest, is emerging as the political instrument of those who are in effect unrepresented by the Republicans and the Democrats alike.

Vote for Roosevelt and in New York State for Lehman—and vote for them on the American Labor Party ticket!

Thank You

To the Editor of The Crisis:—I am glad to say a few words about The Crisis, the monthly magazine devoted to the interests of the colored race in America. I have been interested in this magazine for over ten years and I find it always to be interesting and fascinating.

It seems that America refuses to be aware of the fact that it has in its midst more than 12,000,000 colored Americans that carry immense potentialities for the future life and advancement of the United States.

For after all the worthwhile achievements of humanity are traceable to the contributions of distinct racial entities. It is for the best interests of our country and of humanity at large, that races that we find in our midst have a continued life, so as to be enabled to unfold the distinct spiritual gifts of which they are the custodians for humanity.

Duluth, Minn.

A. B. Clarfield

Soup's On!

By Edward Lawson

"SOUP'S on!"

Those magic words spell noonday happiness to the more than 300,000 colored children in schools all over the country who are receiving the benefit of the Works Progress Administration's Hot School Lunch Program. Even though the homes some of them left in the morning were so poor there could be no breakfast, their pinched little bodies are getting at least five wholesome, nourishing meals a week under the plan. What's more, the project means good, steady jobs with pay for thousands of colored women who have families to support. The school dietitians and cooks have been taken from relief rolls in nearly all cases.

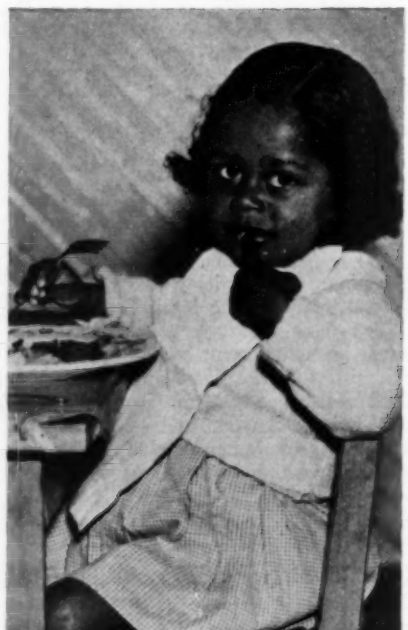
Such projects are now in operation in 33 states, New York City, and the District of Columbia.

In most communities, the children are asked to bring some contribution to the soup pot each morning. It may be only a potato; it may be a bunch of carrots, a can of tomatoes, or a box of flour or salt. In this way the pupils are kept from feeling that the project is a charity arrangement or that there is any stigma attached to it. Wise teachers arrange the donations so that pupils from very poor homes, where even a potato is important, need not contribute very often.

Soup brimming with fresh vegetables is not the only thing the children are given. Cups of rich cocoa, helpings of meat-loaf, whole-wheat bread and butter, bowls of prunes, and canned fruit, or cobbler pie are usually on the menu. As the program is intended largely to reach the poorer, undernourished children in the classroom, the teachers try to see that they get second helpings.

To the children that come from bleak homes where poverty is so extreme that there is never enough food or clothing to go around, the hot-lunch program means not only gains in weight, robustness, and general physical health, but increased mental alertness, and a decided improvement in classroom work as well.

A year ago attendance at one small colored elementary school near Chattanooga, Tenn., had dropped to seven pupils, and the school was faced with closing. Hot lunches have sent the attendance up to 37 daily—more than enough to keep the school open. In Mississippi, where projects are being carried on in 164 colored schools, lazy parents and an indifferent public have been shown that one decent meal a day will work wonders with growing children, and plans are being made to make the school lunch rooms a permanent fixture. In West Virginia, one undernourished colored child gained six pounds within one month after the program started.



WPA photo

Marcia takes time out to look at the birdie

To the workers, the hot-lunch program means being taken off the relief roll and given the sort of job that they can perform, with dollars coming in each month for the use of their own families. They feel that they are doing good, honest work and contributing much to the community and to the happiness of the children.

The women who operate this program keep busy throughout the day. Not only do they prepare and serve the meals, but they try to teach the children who receive them proper table manners, which many do not have the opportunity to learn at home. In their remaining time, they care for the kitchen equipment, clean the lunch room, and wash towels, dishcloths, and uniforms. In some communities, where food is contributed to the project by local groups, the women conduct canning operations to conserve donated fruits and vegetables for later use.

To the careworn mother, after sending her little brood off to school in the morning, the program means even more than to anyone else, for it spells certainty that at least one good meal awaits each of them at noonday with the call of:

"Soup's on!"

Statement of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc., required by the Acts of Congress of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933, of THE CRISIS, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1936.

State of New York } ss.
County of New York }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Roy Wilkins, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of THE CRISIS, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher—THE CRISIS PUBLISHING CO., INC., 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Editor—Roy Wilkins, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Managing Editor—Roy Wilkins, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
Business Manager—Roy Wilkins, 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member must be given.) THE CRISIS PUBLISHING CO., INC., 69 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. All stock owned by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Dr. Louis T. Wright, President, Mrs. E. R. Alexander, Treasurer.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

ROY WILKINS.
Editor.

Sworn to and described before me this 14th day of September 1935.

FRANK M. TURNER.
Notary Public.

[SEAL]
(My commission expires March 30, 1938.)

Ladies—Save Time, Work and Money

By using CLEANS ALL CRYSTALS. Quickly and thoroughly clean your silks, dresses, clothing, ties, felt hats, gloves, rugs, upholstery, draperies, lamp shades, woodwork, silverware, etc. Remove spots and stains like magic. Use like Naphtha. Odorless—non-inflammable. Trial package to make ONE GALLON OF EXCELLENT CLEANING FLUID . . . ONLY ONE DIME. ORDER NOW.

DEPENDABLE PRODUCTS COMPANY
68 East 57th Street, Dept. 2 Chicago, Ill.

Mention THE CRISIS to Our Advertisers

Cleveland Youth Council Sells 200 Crisis Monthly

DO you want to spread constructive propaganda of the N.A.A.C.P. far and near, throughout your community? Want to present a nationwide program of Negro achievement activities and conditions? Want to offer city-wide enlightenment on the new Negro, the N.A.A.C.P. program, past, present and future? Do you want to sell The Crisis and make some real money for yourself or for your Youth Council? Provided you do, here's how.

First: Appoint or elect an enthusiastic leader well known in the community with the best contacts. Do not forget personality and salesmanship ability. This first step may be the most important; but there is one such person in every community, so whoever he is, get him.

Second: You are forming a Crisis committee and having found a chairman, you will now proceed just as carefully in selecting the other members of your committee. Remember everyone does not make a good salesman. Some may be much more useful to your Youth Council in some other way.

Third: Call a meeting of your Crisis committee and let them study The Crisis. Analyze it from cover to cover; study it; discuss it; pick out each fine point and contribution. The first law of salesmanship is *know your product.*

Now that you are acquainted with your product, make a list of selling points. In other words, a specific sales talk. This is a better method as you will get nowhere with a haphazard hit-and-miss method.

Fourth: Make a list of prospective sales outlets. Remember most of the work of selling is done before a sale. Go to your senior N.A.A.C.P. branch and get their membership roll. You will find that only a tenth of them are subscribers to The Crisis. On the other hand, one hundred percent of them are subscribers to the N.A.A.C.P. program.

Route this list into streets, and give sections to each committee member. Here is a fertile field virtually undeveloped, for their dollar membership itself gave them little specific information about their investment. The Crisis shows them what is happening to their dollar!

Another plan the Cleveland Youth Council has found feasible is this one: list all the important churches and community centers and detail one or more persons at each place. Let these persons become known as agents for The Crisis. If you are alert you will have The Crisis on hand at every mass meeting and general assembly. Make your sales interracial. You are especially anxious that The Crisis be read by as many people of the other races as is possible for obvious reasons. You will find them especially interested in it. They will marvel at the new light in which the Negro is presented. They will be inspired with a new appreciation of the race, a higher estimation. Then the task of the National Association, and your own task will be much easier.

The Cleveland Youth Council, with Miss Alice Green as chairman of The Crisis committee, has consistently sold two hundred copies per month and is aiming at a goal of five hundred. Our first fifty copies sold like hot cakes to the members of the Youth Council alone. Naturally they are our first customers. We may not sell five hundred, but we are shooting high. Maybe your Council cannot sell two hundred, but you can if you try.

Leading Players in Cullen Drama

Hedgerow Studio photo

Goldie Ervin (right) and Robert Watson who played the roles of Mattie and Sam in Countee Cullen's play "One Way to Heaven" which had its premiere Monday, September 28, at the Hedgerow Theatre at Moylan-Rose Valley, Pa., near Philadelphia. This large cast is directed by Jasper Deeter.

Book Review

RICHARD ALLEN by Charles H. Wesley. 300 pp. The Associated Publishers, Inc., Washington, D. C. $2.00

Coming at a time when there is a controversy regarding the true position of the Methodist Church to-day, *Richard Allen* by Charles Wesley does much not only to focus attention on one of the greatest Negro churchmen of all times but also to clarify pertinent issues in relation to the present dispute. Interestingly told, the story, because of its historical information, should make an appeal to all concerned with Negro affairs without reference to church affiliation.

The life of Richard Allen again illustrates that great accomplishments can be made against tremendous odds. Born into slavery, Allen was fortunate enough to be owned by sympathetic masters the last of which encouraged him in his plans to purchase his freedom. Caught up under the spell of Methodism that had been taught him in the households in which he had served, the young man turned to preaching the gospel to his neighbors in Philadelphia and surrounding sections. As an outgrowth of this initial move there developed the African Methodist Episcopal Church established not to advance the material gain of its founder but as a necessary plan to offset the discriminatory procedures being instituted in the white Methodist Episcopal Church. The zeal with which he continued to promote his work in spite of opposition, jealousies, financial difficulties, and the like characterized his every effort considered worthwhile of accomplishment. Resulting from Allen's vision of a desire for freedom of worship, the African Methodist Episcopal Church has grown into a significant contributory factor in racial expansion of to-day.

However, it was not only church work to which Allen energetically devoted himself. Always he showed enthusiasm for any project that meant the progress of his race. Whether it was the question of abolition, colonization of Negroes, education of slaves, or some provocative public issue, Allen never swerved from an uncompromising stand for

(*Continued on next page*)

his convictions. One of his most effective contributions outside the church was his establishment of the Free African Society, "the first evidence which history affords of an organization for economic and social cooperation among Negroes of the western world." In the final analysis Allen should rightfully be considered a leader of his people. Considering the fact that he was the product of a slave era, his life emphasizes the sterling achievements wrought by those persons denied the advantages enjoyed to-day.

Mr. Wesley shows evidence of scholarly research in the preparation of his volume. Although there is much factual material, never does such project itself to the point of destroying the main trend of interest. Contrary to the title the book is not pure biography as one might expect. Instead of a subjective presentation of Richard Allen the author is more concerned with his subject only to the extent in proving how he affected movements, social conditions, and the opinion of his day. It is this aspect of the work that probably should cause it to be designated as history rather than biography. An important addition to the growing list of books that is unfolding valuable information on heretofore little known facts of history.

JAMES O. HOPSON

GOD IN A ROLLS ROYCE by John Hoshor. 272 pp. Hillman-Curl, Inc., New York. $2.50.

"God in a Rolls Royce" is the chronicle of the rise of George Baker from hedge-cutter of Baltimore, Maryland, to heaven-keeper in Harlem. Baker, alias Father Divine (God), is a diminutive brown mystic whose followers are variously estimated at 3,000; 3,000,000; 20,000,000; and "The Universe."

He was born in Savannah, Ga., about 54 years ago, according to earthly reports; but, according to him, he was not born at all, but was "combusted" at the corner of 134th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City about 1900. Despite this novel claim, the author, John Hoshor, has dug up the story of Baker's first twenty-five years which were spent in Savannah, and an unnamed Alabama town and it is not unlike the lives of thousands of other poor, uneducated Negroes living in that section. Not even the fact that his mother and father were Mary and Joseph Baker is very striking since both names are quite common in the South. The coincidence, however, might have become a powerful suggestion after Baker imbibed the "God in every man" teaching of a certain Baptist preacher, Father Jehovah, of Baltimore.

In 1915, Baker, who had taken the spiritual name of "The Messenger", came to New York with twelve disciples who immediately secured jobs and provided the material support for the communal household that Baker established. Later the group moved to Sayville, Long Island, where for about ten years it prospered financially and spiritually, but without much expansion. Life was enjoyed "in the fullness of the abundance thereof"—that is, except sex life, which was barred by "Father." (The Messenger had become "Father Divine" by the process of appropriating a name that pleased him).

About 1930 the group began to do a good bit of entertaining and when the word spread around in New York that "free chicken dinners, all you can eat and everybody welcome" were provided, "Father" had all the company the place could hold, with more overflowing into the streets of the neighborhood. The wrath of the real estate interests was aroused and "Father" was sent to jail for maintaining a public nuisance, although the prosecution had no valid evidence to support the claim. The trial was a sensation. Much publicity was given to the good stewardship of the movement and "Father" was not slow in taking advantage of it. When the judge who sent him to jail died three days later of a heart attack, "Father" heard the knock-knock of wide spread acclamation and answered with masterful astuteness and showmanship, "I hated to do it." The headquarters were moved to Harlem where the conflagration is showing no signs of subsiding. There are said to be 158 heavens in 22 states of the United States and in several foreign countries, and "God" states: "I have not yet done anything to what I will do—not so much as a percent of a percent of a percent of a fraction of a grain of what I will do universally, as well as among you."

Mr. Hoshor tells the story in the facile style of the newspaper feature story. Much of it is related in conversations that are reputed to have been held between followers of the movement and Mr. Hoshor himself or other newspaper reporters. Testimony from court records and welfare organizations, both public and private, is also used. "God's" bounteous provision of fried chicken, free lodging houses, farms, automobiles, picnics in heaven, the promised land (at Kingston, N. Y.) and his regeneration of Faithful Mary (Angel No. 1) and other gamblers, gangsters, and prostitutes are taken up in great detail, but little explanation is offered as to the source of the thousands of dollars which supply all of these blessings, except the words of the angels that "God provides." Despite the fact that "Father" uses all of the tools of the opportunist and charlatan in donning his bogus divinity, there is nothing in the story to impeach his personal integrity. All of his hoodwinking seems to be on the spiritual level. It is an amusing book, full of laugh-provoking situations, and probably meant to be superficial. Nevertheless, Mr. Hoshor always maintains a somewhat serious and solemn attitude toward his subject. The white followers of the movement get his most earnest consideration. None of the explanations that he has found to account for the well-educated as well as illiterate Negro followers is sufficient to explain to him the presence of whites of the same cultural level. In one of his descriptions he refers to a procession of Divine followers as "a band of enthusiastic Negroes and crazy whites." One naturally wonders why the whites are crazy and the Negroes merely enthusiastic. There is also a generous sprinkling of such Octavus Roy Cohen descriptives as "darkey, darkeytown,

Low Cost Protection!

Insurance **$100 to $2000**

MEDICAL SERVICE IN MANY CITIES

$250 INSURANCE
$4.00 SICK BENEFIT
for
77¢
A MONTH

A Typical Policy Age 35

Sick Benefits **$4-$6—$8-$10**

WEEKLY

Includes tuberculosis benefit $20 a week for 30 weeks.

PROTECT THE WHOLE FAMILY AT MINIMUM COST

in a Chartered Non-Profit Fraternal Organization

International Workers Order

105,000 Members Reserve Fund $1,000,000 2,000 Branches

THE I. W. O. OFFERS
30 Free Trips to EUROPE
Join the New 50,000 Membership Drive Contest Now and Become Eligible to Win.
Valuable Premiums to All

Mail Coupon for Illustrated Booklet on Membership Valuable Premiums and Prizes

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, (C-11-36)
80 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Name ..... Age .....

Address ..... City ..... State .....

Membership is open to all under the age of 45, regardless of race, color or creed

Mention THE CRISIS to Our Advertisers

big fat mammies, high yallers, and broad shouldered bucks," and statements such as "probably nothing tastes as good to a Negro as fried chicken."—Toward the end of the book he finally stalks down what he considers the real intent of Father Divine and holds it at bay, in italics: "Religion is merely the cloak which covers his real intent—the complete intermingling of the races"—a bit farfetched, it seems, but then he might have a small daughter whose purity he must protect. On the basis of the excellent argument that the book builds up, right up to this conclusion, on the potency of free fried chicken for the creation of divinity, this conclusion does not have a leg to stand on.

V. WARMSLEY

Dark Noon

(*Continued from page* 338)

before. Other artists, other musicians, had moved them deeply, perhaps. But this music seemed to do much more than merely appeal to their emotions. It was more than beauty; it was force itself that crushed its way into them. Through all the later years of their life the memory of its majestic beauty would haunt them.

Glory — harsh glory — swelling to thunder — fading to silence — a man, a race, rising from hell—a song ascending the ethereal blue of the summer sky—glory. Only the hand of a god could have played such music. And, in truth —for one brief hour—the man was a god. With his new instrument he built up the dreams of a lifetime—dreams no longer hopeless, no longer unfulfilled. He would send his dreams towering to heaven. Then with his wild power he would crash them to earth—and build again—tower them higher—from chaos to greater glory.

Miss Black, after she arrived, finally began to wonder who the player was. Unnoticed, she slipped through the group, entered the church, and made her way toward the man—or the god—playing there in the early darkness. "The Messiah's" last majestic "Amen" echoed and re-echoed until it faded into complete silence. The man never noticed her until she snapped on the light directly over the organ. Then he rose—a man unawakened from a dream. Miss Black was more surprised than he. She saw towering over her the giant figure of a Negro—black, unkempt, ragged. She screamed hysterically as she fell fainting to the floor.

Men rushed in. Noise. Confusion. The crowd heard only the woman's scream—they had forgotten "The Messiah." They saw only the giant Negro standing before the white woman—they did not notice his eyes which looked far beyond the figure of the frightened woman, beyond the rich dignity of the old church, into the richer space of dreams.

That night a mob broke into the county jail, seized the giant Negro, and quickly swung him from a lamp post. It was a businesslike lynching—no torture, no noise, no time lost.

The man hardly realized what they were doing to him. The majestic glory of "The Messiah" still crashed against his benumbed mind as it swung into darkness.

Read the Crisis

500 BEAUTIFUL NEGRO ART PHOTO CALENDARS

Your name, address and business printed on same, $29.00. Send 35c in stamps for samples. Agents wanted. When writing send self-addressed stamped envelope.

NEGRO ART ADVERTISING CO.
Blotter, Calendar and Fan advertising
CAthedral 8-4070 2077 7th Ave., New York City

Harlem Advertisers

When you are away from home you will appreciate the Accommodations at the

HARLEM BRANCH Y. M. C. A.
NEW YORK CITY

even if you are fussy

2 BUILDINGS
420 ROOMS

Spiritual Warmth — Comfort — Hospitality, 24 Hours Each Day

Y. M. C. A. 180 West 135th Street New York City

Phone Edgecombe 9049 Beautiful Chapel Free
RODNEY DADE & BROS.
Efficient and Reliable Service
2244 Seventh Avenue New York City
(Corner of 132nd St.)
Prices to suit all
Our references—anyone of the many we have served

HOTEL GRAMPION
The Finest Hotel in Harlem
Every Room With Private Bath and Telephone
Tel. UNiversity 6900, 4-6901, 6902
182 St. Nicholas Avenue

WAINWRIGHT & SON FUNERAL HOME, INC.
162 West 136th St., New York City
COMPLETE FUNERALS $150
Phone: Edg-4-1086

BELSTRAT LAUNDRY CO., INC.
Largest Negro-owned Industry in Harlem
Wet and finished work
51 West 140th St. BRadhurst 2-4282

"100 Amazing Facts About the Negro"
In All Ages and All Lands—Gathered by Actual Travel on Five Continents by J. A. Rogers, Author, Journalist and Lecturer. 100 Surprises! 100 Thrills!
Did you know that Negroes once owned whites people as slaves in the United States? That there are lands where Negroes still hold them as slaves?
13 cents. With "The Key" giving full proof and sources: 39 cents.
Write J. A. ROGERS PUBLICATIONS
2293—7th Avenue New York City

H. ADOLPH HOWELL FUNERAL CHURCH, INC.
The only dedicated Funeral Church in Harlem
Automobiles for hire for all occasions
2332 Seventh Avenue
AUdubon 3-3193
George E. West, Pres.
Harold H. Hedgeman, Licensed, Mgr.

TURNER
Undertaking & Embalming Co.
Incorporated under the Laws of State of New York
OPEN ALL HOURS
Main Office 107 West 136th Street Phone AUdubon 3-4304
Branch 5 West 116th Street Phone UNiversity 4-1431
Established 1904—NOTARY PUBLIC
"Every Requisite for the Burial of the Dead"
EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER

Mention THE CRISIS to Our Advertisers

Home Office Building

SATISFIED PATRONS

Are the Backbone of Any Business

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY'S claim to rendering a superior insurance service in connection with its liberal rates and policies is borne out by the general approval of its policyholders. The following letter from the wife of a well-known physician and surgeon is an illustration of the attitude of the policyholders of this Company to the service rendered to them.

1110 Berkley Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia
Sept. 28, 1936

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to announce that during the past twenty-two years I have had many opportunities to observe the methods of the Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Inc. in paying sick, accident and death claims. In every case in my immediate family, and also among my neighbors and friends I have noted that this company pays its claims promptly and cheerfully. I therefore recommend it to all who wish to have dependable insurance protection in the hour of need.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) MRS. A. B. GREEN

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VA., INC.

HOME OFFICE: Third and Clay Streets, Richmond, Virginia

MODERN FORMS OF LIFE, HEALTH and ACCIDENT INSURANCE

DISTRICT OFFICES AND AGENCIES THROUGHOUT VIRGINIA AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA